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25 June Middle East and South Asia Review

LD251313 [Editorial Report]

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Recent Fighting — An Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA denied an Iranian claim that an Iraqi warplane was downed 24 June. All Iraqi planes that carried out missions that day returned safely to base, the spokesman affirmed. An Iranian communique cited by IRNA had announced that an Iraqi warplane was shot down in western Azarbayjan Province. IRNA also reported that about 8 civilians were killed and 60 injured when Iraqi warplanes bombed two villages near Sardasht in western Azarbayjan.

An Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA placed Iranian losses in the 23-24 June fighting in northern Iraq at 400 dead with "large numbers" wounded.

Military Deployments — Tehran radio reported the arrival on Abu Musa Island of the first group of the "large deployment" of the "Defenders of the Persian Gulf." The Revolution Guards commander in chief inspected the combat units, visited the fortifications and military installations on the island, and expressed satisfaction with the state of readiness. He expressed the hope that all "plots" of the superpowers and criminal agents would be "neutralized" by the effective presence of these forces.

In another military development, Iran conducted "large-scale" maneuvers in the Persian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz, and Gulf of Oman, IRNA noted. The objective of the 8-day exercises is to test the combat readiness of naval units against potential threats.

Turkish Protest — The Iraqi ambassador was summoned to the Turkish Foreign Ministry to receive "the necessary representations" in connection with an Iraqi attack on a Turkish ship near Iran's Bushehr port 24 June, Ankara radio reported. Seven of the ship's crew were injured when an Iraqi missile struck the engine room, causing a fire.

Kuwaiti Diplomacy

The Kuwaiti foreign minister sent an "urgent" message to Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, KUNA noted. The Kuwaiti ambassador who conveyed the message said it deals with current developments in the Gulf situation.

Saudi Arabia's King Fahd received the Kuwaiti foreign minister who handed him a written message from the amir of Kuwait, SPA noted. The minister is on a Gulf tour that includes stops in Bahrain, Qatar, and Oman to deliver similar messages on current regional developments.

Al-Shariqah Reconciliation

Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi agreed to settle differences with his brother Shaykh Sultan and to comply with his appointment as deputy ruler after receiving "guarantees" from the UAE Supreme Council, the Kuwaiti paper *Al-Qabas* reported. However, all other demands by 'Abd al-'Aziz were rejected, *Al-Qabas* said, and the Supreme Council resolved to demobilize the Al-Shariqah palace guards and merge them into the UAE federal army. This decision will be implemented immediately after Shaykh Sultan's return to the amirate, the paper stated, citing sources close to the reinstated Al-Shariqah ruler.

Lebanon

Syrian Concern Over Glass — The Syrian military command in Lebanon "insists" that Charles Glass be released soon, and it views the Glass case differently from that of other hostages because this kidnapping was a violation of the security plan implemented by Syrian forces in Beirut, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. Syria's concern over the issue was highlighted by a Damascus radio commentary which denounced those who resort to kidnapping and other criminal acts under the slogan of resistance and struggle, asserting that such methods undermine true resistance and dishonor genuine freedom fighters. "Those who want to fight imperialism and Zionism should seek them in their hideouts, not flex their muscles against innocent people who have trusted us and come to live in peace." The radio warned kidnappers that they are wrong if they think they cannot be tracked down and made accountable for their acts.

Southern Lebanon — Israeli sources were not observed to mention or confirm a Voice of Lebanon radio report that Israeli aircraft bombarded an area on the western slopes of Mount Hermon 24 June in an apparent attempt to prevent guerrillas from infiltrating into the security zone.

USSR Visit — The Beirut paper *Al-Bayraq* reported that President Amin al-Jumayyil will visit the USSR shortly in response to an invitation from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, MENA noted.

Syrian-Jordanian Summit

Reporting on King Husayn's 24 June visit to Syria, Damascus radio noted that his talks with President Hafiz al-Asad dealt with the latest developments in the Middle East, current Arab relations, efforts to improve the Arab situation, issues of common concern, and bilateral relations. A Syrian presidential spokesman cited by Radio Monte Carlo said Husayn's visit was part of current Arab contacts to "confront the new developments" in the region. The spokesman also confirmed Syria's support for holding an Arab summit conference.

Israel and the USSR

An *'Al Hamishmar* report on Shim'on Peres' visit to Paris cited the foreign minister's view that a meeting with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze is "possible," adding that it is now necessary to try to hold meetings with the top Soviet leadership. The paper noted that Peres had asked the French leaders to assist in bringing Israel and the Soviet Union closer and in obtaining exit visas for Soviet Jews.

PLO and the USSR

The USSR and PLO favor "serious international efforts to effectively unblock the situation in the Near East" and to begin

"practical movement" toward a comprehensive settlement, the two sides announced in a joint communique carried by TASS at the end of PLO Political Department Faruq Qaddumi's visit to Moscow. The communique viewed the convening of a "plenipotentiary" international conference as the "main way" toward a settlement and expressed support for the idea of establishing a preparatory committee for a conference. The two sides condemned attempts to "distort the significance" of the international conference, to turn it into "a cloak for separate deals," and to prevent the PLO from attending. The communique also noted that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will lead a Palestinian delegation to the USSR, and Qaddumi told KUNA in a 24 June interview that the 'Arafat visit will take place "soon."

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Interview — Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi commented on the Iran-Iraq war in an interview with Kuwait's *Al-Ra'y al-'Amm* cited by KUNA, contending that Israel and the United States want the fighting to continue in order to destroy the military power of Iraq, "which is the most important Arab force." On inter-Arab affairs, Al-Qadhdhafi called for unification between Iraq and Syria, which "represents the most important military force after Iraq." He also said that Libya and Algeria will proclaim the establishment of a unified federal state this year.

Soviet Visitors — A Soviet military delegation headed by Lieutenant General Yevgeniy Kondakov arried in Tripoli 24 June, JANA disclosed.

Egypt

Commenting on the forces behind recent terrorist acts, President Husni Mubarak told *Al-Musawwar* that Egypt has become a target for "several foreign powers" which are "offended by the fact that Egypt is now a safe country amid a sea of troubles" and which seek to harm Egypt's stability and internal security, MENA reported. The religious extremists in Egypt are limited in number and power, but use terrorism to exaggerate their capabilities, he contended.

Mubarak also dismissed reports that he will visit Washington shortly, disclosing that his schedule until the end of this year contains no foreign trips except for the OAU summit in Addis Ababa.

Sudan

The Foreign Ministry distributed a circular to all diplomatic missions in Khartoum asking them to obtain prior permission for all publications, Omdurman radio reported. The ministry asked them not to engage in direct contacts with the Sudanese media without official permission, saying it refused to allow the democratic nature of Sudan to be exploited for the exchange of insults between hostile regimes.

DRA

DRA forces have captured chemical weapons from the rebels including over 200 U.S.-made phosphorus fragmentation mines seized recently in Kabul Province, according to a DRA officer cited by TASS.

Mubarak Interviewed on Terrorism, Regional Issues
NC241317 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1115 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Cairo, 24 Jun (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has asserted that the common objective of the recent terrorist acts in Egypt is to shake the country's stability. The president said: If it were not for the substantial volume of accomplishments, Egypt would not have become a target for several foreign powers offended by the fact that Egypt is now a safe country amid a sea of troubles. They are offended that, after a long absence, they see a true embodiment of a sound democratic Egypt, following a course toward mature perfection for the first time in an Arab country.

In an interview with the *Al-Musawwar* magazine, to be published Friday [26 June], President Mubarak continued: Some foreign powers want to harm Egypt's stability and internal security. They want to distort the accomplishments it has achieved in the past 5 years, despite the considerable economic difficulties that had engulfed it for reasons over which it did not have much control, including the drop in oil prices and numbers of expatriates and the stagnation of Suez Canal revenues.

In the interview he granted to *Al-Musawwar* Editor in Chief Makram Muhammad Ahmad, President Mubarak emphasized that there are extremist religious groups of limited numbers and powers in Egypt that believe they can exaggerate their true capabilities through terrorism. These groups are comprised of young people misled by incorrect thoughts because Islam has never been a religion of violence or terrorism throughout its history. Islam is, in essence, and in content, a tolerant religion of dialogue that calls for effective preaching rather than violence and coercion.

In his interview, the president said the other face of terrorism is that the world is now inundated by a wave of violence and related incidents. The president opined that this inundation may have found a starting point in areas near or adjacent to Egypt, adding that nothing can prevent the world terrorist wave from infiltrating our country.

The president stressed his belief that it is the duty of every Egyptian and every political power in Egypt to resist this infiltration and to support the Egyptian security services to protect the country from the terrorist onslaught, which originates from abroad.

The president asserted that the apparent motives for the recent events in Egypt are crystal clear. However, we cannot anticipate the ongoing investigations and accuse a certain party before we possess all of the evidence.

The president said he will publicize all the facts later and address a clear and unequivocal accusation at any foreign power that may have participated in those schemes.

In response to a question, President Mubarak said: Egypt's legitimate leadership is not being pressured by any foreign source that wishes to force it to give up anything. He said the seat of the presidency will not tempt me to stay if I sensed I am compelled to adopt a decision that does not reflect the will and the interests of this homeland, and if the price [of the presidency] is to surrender the soil and the security of the homeland.

President Mubarak asserted that terrorism is unjustified because many major states have failed thus far to solve all their social problems. For example, the Soviet Union has not yet been able to provide a proper home for every citizen, although 60 years have elapsed since its revolution.

In his interview with *Al-Musawwar*, President Mubarak asserted that his schedule until the end of this year does not include any foreign trips, except for the African summit that will be held in Addis Ababa next July. The president was responding here to a question on contradicting news about a trip to Washington and reports appearing recently in some papers that he will visit Washington shortly with King Husayn.

Touching on the rescheduling of military debts with Washington, President Mubarak said the U.S. Administration is proposing to schedule new military debts at the current 7 percent rate. As for old debts, the matter is still unresolved.

Commenting on Egyptian-Palestinian relations, the president said there is nothing new which prompts us to reconsider our decision to close PLO offices in Cairo. In this regard, the president referred to the recent statement by Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, who described Egypt's decision to close PLO offices as irresponsible.

The president disclosed that he fully explained the situation to Senegalese President Abdou Diouf during his recent visit to Egypt. He added that he also briefed Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad, YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, and everyone else, including PLO leaders, on the entire situation. He revealed that he told them the Egyptian decision to close PLO offices does not imply a change in Egypt's stand toward the Palestinian cause or its stand toward the PLO's right to represent its people.

President Mubarak said Egypt's commitment to the Palestinian issue prompted him to send a message to 'Arafat recently to emphasize the need to take a more audacious step regarding UN Security Council Resolution No 242 in order to block the way of those who want to exclude the PLO. The president added that the PLO only has to make a conditional recognition of that resolution.

Turning to the international conference on peace in the Middle East, President Mubarak remarked that the major problem now lies in the Israeli stand toward the conference, stressing that he is confident Israeli Foreign Minister Peres will not lose his enthusiasm.

President Mubarak maintained that the problem lies partly with Arabic circles, noting that Jordan's King Husayn is making sincere efforts in this region to arrive at a specific and clear-cut Arab stand on the convocation of an international conference.

In his interview, President Mubarak added that he cannot say for certain that the conference will be held before the end of the year, because there is still a long way to go.

The president also expressed doubts over the possibility of convening an Arab summit in Saudi Arabia next September.

Commenting on the situation in the Gulf, President Mubarak reiterated that security in the Gulf region is part of Egypt's security due to pertinent Arab, geographic, economic, and security reasons.

The president expressed fears of an internationalization of the Gulf crisis and the transformation of the area into a conflict between the two superpowers which, naturally, would seriously aggravate the atmosphere of instability. The president referred in this regard to Egypt's strong solidarity with Gulf countries.

Regarding Egyptian prisoners in Iran, President Mubarak noted that Egypt was able to ascertain the numbers through a third party's contact with Tehran. He said we are implementing certain measures, which are better not publicized, to guarantee their safety.

In conclusion, President Mubarak commended the stands of those African leaders who appreciate Egypt's status and elected it to chair the next African summit. He said that decision fulfils the wishes of our brother African leaders.

The president said we are filled with gratitude and appreciation for African loyalty toward Egypt.

Ghali Discusses Importance of Peace Conference

TA241011 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 24 Jun 87 p 3

[Report on interview with Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, by Smadar Peri in Cairo; date not given]

[Text] "I understand 'a certain camp' in Israel fears that once the international conference is held you will be unable to withdraw should the negotiations take a turn you do not like. But I tell you that, if during the deliberations we suspect peace is not getting any nearer, we will be the first to leave the conference."

In an interview with *Yedi'ot Aharonot*, Dr Butrus Ghali, Egypt's minister of state for foreign affairs, who has been involved in the peace process since its inception, said that whoever does not believe in the international conference as a move that could lead to a comprehensive peace does not believe in peace at all.

"We have been monitoring Shim'on Peres' efforts to revitalize the international conference, but at the same time we will not come to his support because the end result could be the opposite of what we want. We are not interested in interfering in the internal argument in Israel. We are satisfied with closely following the ratio of supporters versus opponents of the conference."

Dr Ghali refused to address himself directly to King Husayn's declaration that he would wait only until 1 August, but he did issue the following warning: "When a golden opportunity to attain a comprehensive peace arises, one should not wait. The door will not remain open forever. That is why I appeal to the Israeli public and say: If you want to reach peace in the region, the international conference is the only way to do this."

"'A certain camp' in Israel is demanding direct negotiations without the involvement of the superpowers," said Ghali, "but I maintain that this is unrealistic. You have tried direct negotiations with Lebanon and failed. Besides, I would like to remind those who are afraid of an international umbrella that UN Resolutions 242 and 338 were adopted only after the superpowers reached an agreement. The Soviet Union must participate in the conference, because it is the only country that could bring Syria to the negotiating table. The presence of the superpowers will guarantee the success of the negotiations."

"The longer you procrastinate in deciding to go ahead with the idea of the conference," concluded Dr Ghali, "the deeper the parties will dig in their heels. In that state of affairs it will be difficult to find the opening positions that would bring everyone to the negotiating table. We must breathe some life into the peace process, which has been frozen for the past 5 years, because this situation could lead to a deterioration or even jeopardize the peace between us."

Badr Notes 'Surveillance' of Hostile Elements

NC232126 Cairo MENA in English 1955 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Cairo, June 23 (MENA) — The Police Department is keeping under surveillance all movements which are threatening Egypt and its citizen's security, Interior Minister Zaki Badr said.

Speaking at a meeting today with non-commissioned officers and policemen of Cairo Security Directorates, the interior minister stressed that the aim of spreading rumours, sowing seeds of dissensions and attempts on Egyptian and foreign personalities lives is to jeopardize the people's trust in the Police Department and neutralize it with a view to destabilizing security and stability.

He pointed out that the Interior Ministry will take firm measures vis-a-vis those who try to make use of the situation to raise prices of some commodities.

The interior minister called on all policemen to implement policies and plans of the department and not rpt not to show leniency in applying the law.

He sent at the end of the meeting a cable of esteem and gratitude to President Mubarak on behalf of all conferees as well as police leaderships.

AL-AKHBAR Criticizes Palestinian View on Resolution

NC250514 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2220 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Excerpts] Cairo, 24 Jun (MENA) — *Al-Akhbar* criticizes the Palestinian position toward UN Security Council Resoltuion 242. The paper says this position remains vague, on the pretext that the resolution refers to the Palestinian issue as a refugee problem and not as a fundamental political matter.

In a commentary in Thursday's edition, *Al-Akhbar* acknowledges that Resolution 242 does not refer to the Palestinian issue and the Palestinian people's rights in specific terms. However, the paper goes on, the resolution does call for Israeli withdrawal from the territories occupied in the June 1967 war and it does state the unacceptability, according to international law and the UN charter, of seizing territory by force. This means Israel will have to get out of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. These are territories in which hundreds of thousands of Palestinians still live, and they could form the nucleus of the Palestinian homeland demanded by the PLO. [passage omitted]

The paper adds that the time has come for the Palestinian leaders to define their position clearly and to reach unanimity on the issues on which they are still divided. The paper affirms that a statement announcing acceptance of the Security Council resolution would destroy one of the main excuses used by those who want to keep the Palestinians out of any effort to solve the Middle East problem and restore peace in the area.

Mubarak Sends Cables to UAE, Al-Shariqah Rulers

NC242049 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1936 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Cairo, 24 Jun (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has sent a cable to His Highness Shaykh Zayid Al Nuhayyan, president of the UAE, in which he expresses his happiness with the agreement reached and the unity that has been maintained. The president praised His Highness Shaykh Zayid's wisdom and his concern for unity and stability in the fraternal UAE.

His Excellency also sent cables to the amir and heir apparent of Al-Shariqah, wishing them continued success.

Oil Production To Remain at Present Level

JN231524 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 22 Jun 87 p 8

[By 'Adil Ibrahim]

[Text] 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil, minister of petroleum and mineral resources, stated that Egypt's oil production in the next 5-year plan will remain at its present level of 870,000 barrels per day, or 317 million barrels a year, despite the new oil discoveries and the new oil fields which have been put into operation.

At a seminar on the future of oil activities in Egypt, the minister said that three agreements on searching for natural gas in the western desert and the northern part of Abu Madi will be signed with the U.S. Amoco Company, the Dutch-Shell Company, and with the international Italian company for Egyptian oil after introducing new conditions on exploring for gas similar to those included in the agreements on oil exploration.

The minister said Egypt cooperates with OPEC and non-OPEC countries to maintain stability on the world oil market, particularly following the receding of the drop in oil prices. He added that oil prices have noticeably improved as a result of oil-producing countries' abidance by the system of fixed prices.

Al-Qadhdhafi Addresses University Students

LD211548 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1953 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Speech by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi at a meeting with students at an unidentified university; date not given — recorded]

[Excerpts] We start with the following observation: After long experience, it has been proven that collective ownership in agriculture, industry, and construction is unsuccessful. I am referring to things owned by all the people. The university is owned by all Libyans. Who are the Libyans who are interested in it? Each person feels that he has a partner. We say that Islam is an international religion, yet we see that there is no one defending it. This is because each Muslim people says that this matter concerns another Muslim people and not them. Even Muslims — Arabs and non-Arabs alike — say that Islam is an international religion that concerns all of mankind, all people; yet ultimately all people stop themselves from protecting, defending, or reasserting Islam.

This is just the opposite of what happens in the Jewish religion. The followers of this religion regard it as being something special for God's chosen people. The Jews — the Israelites — do not feel that there are people other than themselves responsible for defending Judaism. On the contrary, the Jews defend Judaism and make a monopoly of this. They preach that Judaism is confined to God's chosen people — the Israelites. Consequently, they become zealots and fanatics in defense of this religion. They believe that Jerusalem belongs to them.

People usually flee areas where there is conflict and fighting. But the Jews do just the opposite. Look at their continuous immigration to Palestine. Yes, there is countermigration, but the basic issue is the emigration of Jews from all parts of the world to Palestine. They feel that this is their holy land and that there is no one to defend it except themselves. Their religion is not open to everyone; it is not an international religion. It is a religion confined to them.

As for Islam, we say that it is a religion for all peoples. Proceeding from this basis, we say that because it is a religion for all people, there is no one who has the responsibility for defending it. This is how we feel. This even applies to Mecca. We say that all Muslims go there on pilgrimage; we suppose that the entire Islamic world goes there on pilgrimage. We feel that this does not concern we Arabs alone, and this is why we stop from defending it. In actual fact Mecca now is humiliated and under an influence hostile to Islam. However, there is no one among us who feels enough zeal to defend it. Muslims go to Mecca to perform the pilgrimage and come back with gold and frankincense. The fools bring things back from Mecca just because they are from Mecca. They say: Here, I brought you back frankincense, etc. But the frankincense is not from Mecca; it is from Madagascar, Malaysia, etc. It is imported by Saudi Arabia and sold in the markets. They say: Here, I brought you back this headdress from Mecca. But the headdress is not from Mecca; it was made in China. These headdresses are sold in Mecca to fools so that the latter can buy them and bring them home, saying that they are blessed because they are from Mecca.

If the university was privately owned, then its owner would have taken an interest in it. The air-conditioning systems would not have malfunctioned and stopped working. If the owner was living off the university's revenues, then the university would have operated correctly. But because it belongs to all of us, no one thinks about it. To whom does this university belong? Who owns it? It is owned by all Libyans; it is owned by all students and teachers. A factory may stop working; this is because it is publicly owned. Look at Al-Kufrah, Al-Sarir, [words indistinct] all of these publicly owned projects are not functioning because they are owned by all the people and are being run by a public administration. The latter has an office mentality and therefore cannot manage a factory or a farm.

What succeeds is private ownership, a system by which the owner makes his living. But this has led to the private owner becoming an exploiter. Such was the case until capitalism emerged. Private ownership, even if it is exploitive, is successful as far as its owner is concerned. A company is owned by one individual who exploits workers and consumers; he takes labor from the workers and increases consumer prices to make more money. But it is a successful company as far as he is concerned. It does not stumble like a publicly owned company. Work in the private sector, albeit exploitation, functions like clockwork. This is because a company's owner cares about it since he alone owns it. He exploits others and this is why a revolution takes place. The revolution is directed against the exploitation of many by one.

In a previous lecture we said that there was a real danger coming soon. Unfortunately, we are not adequately aware of this danger. The lecture was an alarm bell; it was not intended to increase the amount of information you possess. It was not a lecture on history or geography or anything like that. It was not intended to teach you or to increase your knowledge. The purpose of the lecture was to draw your attention to an inevitable danger to the Arabs' future. I am giving a summary of this previous lecture at a university because I want to attract the attention of all Arabs. I want to ensure that they can study what I say in order to avoid catastrophe and move ahead toward the future.

The danger lies in the location and potential of the Arab homeland. These constitute a real danger to the future of the Arabs. Look at the Arab homeland's location. It is very bad, regardless of whether the Arabs themselves chose it or whether God chose it for them. This region is one of the worst in the world. You should have studied this in geography, and not at the college-level but in any geography course at the secondary-school level. This is a poor region that lacks water, rain, and snow. [passage omitted]

The black African nations live in very fertile areas beyond the great Sahara. This is the great Sahara. [video shows Al-Qadhdhafi pointing to map] But beyond it rivers begin — the Niger and Chari Rivers and the lakes that are the origin of the Nile. There are torrential rains there. Drought begins in the northern areas of the African states which face the Arab homeland. Drought extends to some parts of the Arab homeland — from Mauritania to the Arabian Peninsula. This is a desert. Therefore, the knowledge, way of thinking, culture, and future of the peoples who live in this area differ totally — and they should be totally different — from what a European or an Indian

or any other person living in another area may learn. But this fact is overlooked; ultimately, it is overlooked in labor. Those who are unfortunate enough to live in this poor area should learn things that are different from what is learned by people living in Europe or Africa. I regret to say, however, that to this day there are no differences between the interests and studies of those who live in Europe and Africa and those who live in the Arab homeland. [passage omitted]

The second point in this lecture is the presence of oil in the Arab homeland's desert areas. This presence has led to a very serious historic deceit. Examples can be found in Libya, Algeria, the Arabian Peninsula, the Gulf States such as Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, and the small states of the region, as well as Iraq. The search for oil continues in Egypt, Sudan, and Mauritania; oil has been found in north Yemen. This oil constitutes a dangerous phenomenon as far as our future is concerned, for it deceives us. It deceives us into thinking that because we have oil we can sell it and buy whatever we want. Now this is true because we can buy everything; but when the oil runs out tomorrow, you will not be able to buy anything. This is a foregone conclusion that we should understand.

Regardless of this, you find the people asking for this building, this road, and this bridge; they ask for chandeliers, for Chevrolet automobiles, and on so. It is illogical to sell oil in order to import luxuries. This is madness. We are mad. This is true. We are criminals as far as we ourselves are concerned; we are criminals as far as future generations are concerned. Saudi Arabia is full of giant luxury halls and palaces and chandeliers — one chandelier was brought on board a ship because it was so big. Each person buys a big American car only to destroy it after 2 months and replace it with another. Is it logical for us to use our oil in this way? The same thing is happening in Libya; we are proceeding along the same path. We make urgent requests and insist on getting whatever we want: Build houses, build roads, buy us cars, they all say.

Buy us candies, buy us different kinds of clothes, import luxury goods, they tell us. All this is wrong. These are all luxury goods. You want lights from all parts of the world and in all colors like the ones you find now in the streets and on street corners near houses, etc; each light a different shape. You want different lampshades, different lamp holders, and different lamp bases. In addition to this, all these things get broken and we quickly want to buy replacements for them. Cars break down, we destroy roads in order to build others, and we easily waste paper.

This is madness and stupidity; it will lead to an abyss. Because we have the oil we are selling it for money and we quickly buy anything from world markets. Before anything else, we should buy our lives for the future. Cars, palaces, lighting, chandeliers, and all this construction and road building cannot secure the Arab future. This is the second point, as I said; namely, that the oil has deceived us a great deal. We have been transformed by oil into a world consumer market to ensure that we can buy goods from the colonialist states and to ensure that exploiters and capitalists of the world who produce cars, aircraft, refrigerators, radios, clothing, glass, marble, sweets, drinks, etc. can make a profit. These are capitalists. I mean that such goods are manufactured by companies. They see a nation thirsty for such things, a nation having oil, and they say to it: Give us money and we will supply you with these things. The things that we do not use here we use when we travel to the countries where these companies are found. This is it. When we are greedy in this way, then we are hastening our own end. We are a nation that is being taken in by this deceit and our future is in danger.

The third point is that the desert contains oases, beginning with those of the Arabian Peninsula and Yemen, the inner and outer oases, the Siwa oasis in Egypt, the Jaghbub, Al-Kufrah, Fezzan, Jufrah, Ourgala, Hassi Messaoud, and [word indistinct], and the oasis of [word indistinct] in Mauritania. These constitute a series of oases, but all of them will soon come to an end. The palm trees will die and the inhabitants will desert them. They will become like the ruins you see in some parts of the country. There are ruins of old towns in every area of the Arab homeland. They all ended up the same way and had the same destiny. Why do all these oases dry up? A naive person may say to me: The water in these oases has been there for thousands of years and for many generations, and now you come to us and say that they will dry up. I am personally confident that they will dry up and that the palm trees will die over an area extending from Libya to the other Arab countries. Why? Because for several years now these oases have been irrigated by primitive methods. Each person who lived and farmed in these oases had no other demands in life, and the number of inhabitants was small. This is why the Siwa oasis thrived for hundreds of years. The number of inhabitants was small and the water in that oasis was exploited in a primitive way. We find that the Qatrun oasis thrived for hundreds of years in the same manner. Now for the very first time in the history of this part of the world, the motor has entered our lives. Machines drilling for water, drilling for wells, have been introduced. Everyone has sunk a well between two other wells and installed a pump. These pumps are now exhausting the waters of the oases day and night. This will eventually exhaust the surface water on which the palm trees and these oases live. The result will be the withering of the palm trees and the exodus of the inhabitants from these oases.

The catastrophe has begun. When you pass through a number of oases you will find just that. It has begun in Fezzan and Al-Kufra; they have become ghost oases. Look and you will find that the palm trees have begun to wither. The catastrophe has begun. Yet the sinking of wells continues, the purchasing of pumps continues, and the exhaustion of surface water continues. The surface water on which palm trees in the oases of the Arabian desert, from the Gulf to the ocean, depend will dry up; the people will leave the oases. There is another layer of water, hundreds of meters deep, on which we have built and are continuing to build major projects, such as the great man-made river, the Al-Kufra and Al-Sarir projects, the Al-Laryal, the Maknousa and Barjuj — Wadi Barjuj — projects, and so forth.

In the Arabian peninsula and Algeria there may be a similar layer, a deep layer, apart from the surface water on which palm trees live. But this deep layer may dry up because we have no confirmation that the water we use will be replaced. It is a basin full of water. We can use the water over periods of 20, 50, or 100 years and exhaust the quantity we have, but there are no assurances that the basin will be refilled. In the past all these deep basins in the desert were filled during times of rain, and they

retained their water levels. Now we have found them and we are exploiting them. But after we exploit them, that will be the end of them. They will not be replaced, unless of course we have another age of rain.

I said in my previous lecture that the present areas of civilization or stability in the Arab homeland are the Tigris and Euphrates Basin and the Syrian coast from Latakia to Palestine. This fertile area -- the Tigris and Euphrates and the Syrian coast to the Tigris and Euphrates Basin as far as Basrah -- is called the fertile crescent because it is crescent-shaped. This is a fertile crescent where there is no desert. Then there is the Sudan and the Nile Valley. There is the Arab Maghreb mountains — the Atlas mountains. [passage omitted]

The other point is that of population. If we suppose that there are 150 million Arabs, then this is a small number scattered over this poor area from the ocean to the Gulf. It is a large area that lacks population; that is to say, the population density is very small. The Arab presence in the Arab homeland is small. If the length of this area from the ocean to the Gulf is 10,000 km with all the zigzag lines, or 6,000 km in a straight line, then we obtain an area of 10 million sq km. Divide the 150 million people over this area and we get 15-25 people per sq km as density. In other words, 15 people live in each sq km. This is a small number per sq km. The other point concerning population is that the people's trends are based on consumption.

The majority of the population live in areas where oil is found. Therefore, they consume the oil such as the Libyans, the Kuwaitis, the Saudis, and the people of the Gulf do. This is evident to every person in every town; namely, that he is a consuming person and nonproductive. We get angry if we do not get luxury goods. Why? Because we are consuming people. In this way we are agents of colonialism because we are working in the interest of colonialism. Colonialism manufactures and we consume at the expense of our future. Colonialism is making a profit while we are making a loss. Any person who is a consumer is an agent of colonialism and an enemy to himself. He is stupid. All the trends of the Arab homeland are based on consumption because the theory of capitalism is what prevails. [passage omitted]

Colonialism and the big capitalist establishments want to see the Arab homeland as a consumer market; they fight us. The capitalists and the exploiting class fight the Arab citizens to make them stop production and to turn them into consumers to ensure that the exploiter can make a profit. The exploiter and the colonialist only think about their own interests. They do not think about you or about the future generations of the Arab nation.

Professions that do not contribute to the future are prevalent in the Arab homeland. Any profession that entails making a profit without production is very popular among the people in the Arab homeland. Both workers and the educated would all like to enter into a profession that brings profit without production. Even those who are teachers want to be reserve teachers. Imagine that! Even to this extent! This is a betrayal of the future. It has reached this extent. Each one of us wants to be a reserve teacher and not a working teacher so that he can evade teaching pupils every day. Teaching is productive. We are not thinking about our future by exploiting education. They want to be reserve teachers in order to get money and be a consumer who buys goods from someone who will exploit them. They want to be just that without teaching.

If you ask some to select a profession, then they will opt for having a shop. Having a shop does not entail production. I told you in the previous lecture that the baker, the hairdresser, the owner of a mill, the merchant, and so on may render services, but what do they produce? There is no production in these professions.

Small shop owners buy flour and sugar to sell. The country itself purchases sugar from abroad; it purchases flour from Australia, etc. The shop owner then sells the same flour. I know that this is a service. The shop owner sells this and gets money in return. I know that the hairdresser provides a service, but apart from cutting your hair what does he contribute? All the professions that I have mentioned provide services. We import wheat from abroad, and then this wheat is made into flour by some people. What have these people done apart from making flour out of wheat? Have they produced? No, they have not!

We need people who will produce goods. If you produce wheat, then grind it and make bread out of it. This will be productive work. Those who sell sugar do not even think about where it comes from or what it cost. They do not serve the future of the nation.

Look at the bad trends in the Arab homeland. Look at the tea that exists throughout the world. I made studies in all the countries I have visited. Each state has its own tea. There are states that make tea from the agricultural products they grow — all except the Arabs, for they are the only ones who drink tea from Sri Lanka! Chinese tea differs from Indian tea. Indian tea is different from Russian tea. Russian tea differs from that produced in Brazil. Each country has its own local tea. China does not drink the tea you drink — the green tea. Only the thousands of native people who drink this green tea...[changes thought] China sells this tea abroad while it drinks another type of tea.

[Unidentified individuals shout: O leader, teach us how we can realize our future.] As we are now, there is no future, nothing. [laughter] I told you that in the Arab homeland the population density is 15-25 people per square km. The statistics I have in front of me indicate that the Netherlands, for example, has a population density of 918 per square mile — the mile is larger than the kilometer, as you know. Look at this density. Even if we say that it has 500 people per square km, this is against 15 people in the Arab homeland. Germany has a population density of 635 people per square mile and Taiwan -- which is Formosa — has 1,300 people per square mile, while we are 15 people per square km. Our presence is very scant and superficial — totally ineffective. People who are scattered in this manner cannot cooperate.

If the Arab population density is so small, then they cannot cooperate. I would like to stress that all trends in the Arab homeland are based on consumption. Professions such as the baker, the hair dresser, the merchant, etc. are nonproductive. They can provide services, and in actual fact they do provide services. But we are talking about production, and these profes-

sions are nonproductive. They do not add any new commodity. This is approximately the summary of the previous lecture.

This homeland, which is in such a bad geographic and demographic position, is being subjected to continuous hostile actions intent on occupying it. Such actions have never ceased since the time of the Greco-Roman, Vandal, and Byzantine campaigns. These were followed by the Crusades, modern colonialism after World War I, the transplanting of the Israelis in the Arab homeland; the crusader air raids on Libya last year; and the continuous American threat and attempt to build military bases for the so-called Rapid Deployment Force on the Arabian Peninsula and in the Arab Maghreb, Egypt, and the Sudan during the Numayri era. Now we have the joint exercises between Egypt and America and Western states. All this is a preliminary action for a new military invasion of the homeland.

All right, the position of this homeland is bad and it is poor. Why do they clamor to occupy it? The answer is that what they require is the strategic location of the Arab homeland. The colonialists are nations living in prosperity in their own countries. But they need strategic areas in the world to which they can expand and which they can put under their control in case of new world wars,as well as to dominate at the present time. Bab al-Mandeb, the Suez Canal, the Strait of Hormuz, and Gibraltar are strategic areas that they want to control. This homeland links Africa with Europe,Asia, and the Atlantic Ocean beyond which is America. They want to control the Red Sea, the Mediterranean, and the Indian and Atlantic Oceans. In other words, they want to dominate the area from the Indian to the Atlantic Oceans. The Arab homeland extends from the Indian to the Atlantic oceans — Somalia overlooks the Indian Ocean while Mauritania and Morocco overlook the Atlantic. The Red Sea and the Mediterranean constitute a network of communications between the continents of the world. Any person crossing from north to south or from west to east whether in the air or on water passes through the Arab homeland. Even radio waves from any direction pass through the Arab homeland. Relay stations are established here. For example, if Italy wants to speak to Africa it does so via the Arab homeland, and it goes through many relay stations to achieve this. This is the first point.

The major powers want the Arab homeland from a strategic point of view. The weakness of the Arab homeland, the distribution of the population in it, the ease with which agent regimes can be established in it, and the naivete of the homeland itself as far as rule and politics are concerned make it easy prey. They understand thet the Arabs lack experience in terms of politics and rule. The Arabs are fighters, generous, brave, etc. But they are naive as far as politics are concerned. They can be deceived and any trivial person from among them can be made a king or a president for life in any Arab country. This is what the major powers believe, and this is what we see.

Why do the naive, the simple, and the dervishes rule in the Arab homeland? This means that politics in the Arab homeland are naive and that the Arabs themselves are naive in this field. Otherwise,who could accept the people whom you know to be their rulers? Some of these rulers have died and some are awaiting their time of death. Could anyone accept an idiot and a trivial person to rule over a people for life? It is very easy to get such rulers; that is to say,the colonialists make such people rule in the Arab homeland who will permit them to exploit the Suez Canal, for example, as is now the case, or Gibraltar, or Bab al-Mandeb. The Israelis pass through the Bab al-Mandeb.

The colonialists install in such positions whomever they want from among the Arabs. If the Suez Canal is out of bounds for the Israelis,then the colonialists look for a trivial and naive person — an agent whom they can deceive — to open the Suez Canal for them. It is now open to them. They look for an agent to open Gibraltar for them, as another example. There is fighting in the Gulf — intense fighting — so that the Strait of Hormuz will be open to them in exactly the same way; that is, under the control of rulers of this type.

Revolutions in the Arab homeland have continuously failed because they seek to deprive the powers clamoring for the Arab homeland from achieving these strategic positions. The powers clamoring for the homeland are still looking for naive persons to make into rulers there. They oppose any awareness in the Arab homeland. Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir was resisted. The Libyan revolution is being resisted. Other liberation revolutions which have taken place in other parts of the Arab homeland -- such as Iraq, Yemen, Algeria, etc. -- were resisted. The colonialists believe in concentrating the efforts hostile to the Arab homeland and in resisting any serious initiative in order to ensure that naivety and subservience will prevail and serve the interests of the powers who want to dominate this homeland. This is the secret behind the efforts to abort the revolutions in the Arab homeland and the secret behind the presence of naive and stupid rulers and their long stay in power.

How come Husayn in Jordan does not fall? The regime in Syria has changed several times; it has changed in Lebanon, in Egypt, and in Iraq. Why is Husayn, the son of Zayn, still there in Jordan? Because Husayn was one of those people for whom colonialism was looking to make a ruler in the region; it got him and therefore it has protected him. Husayn is being safeguarded by America, Britain, and the Israelis. I went with Husayn to the front lines once, to the heights overlooking the Jordan valley. On the other side were the Israelis facing us. That was during the time of the war of attrition. We walked along, taking the matter quite seriously, fearful of being fired at by the Israelis. Husayn, in full uniform with all his medals, walked quite openly on the ground while we were in the trenches. We said to him: Your Majesty, come down into the trenches. He replied: No, you should not fear for my life. [laughter and applause] I then asked Mashhur Hadithah, the chief of staff: How come the King does not walk in the trenches here? He replied: We fear for your life, but we do not fear for the life of His Majesty. The chief of staff told me later: The Jews know the King and they can see him quite clearly through field glasses; they know that it is King Husayn, and they protect him. But if you walk outside the trenches, they will fire at you. They are guards for King Husayn. Mashhur Hadithah was later dismissed from the service. This is true. They guard him. You should not think that the Jews will fire at King Husayn. He walks quite normally and openly in front of the forward military positions. The Jews see that he is King Husayn. The Jews will never get another ruler better than King Husayn. Were it not for the embarrassment, he would have

brought troops from the Israeli Army to guard his palace. They will never find a man better than King Husayn.

The same can be said about the other examples, the ones who are addressed with the expression "May God grant you a long life" and who are now in power. They are in power for exactly this reason. [applause] They are in power because they serve the intentions of the major powers, which are hostile to the Arab homeland. Such leaders enable the colonialists to rule the Arab homeland.

Then there is the wealth of the Arab homeland — the oil to start with followed by metals such as gold, silver, copper, iron, manganese, phosphate, etc. You may say to me: If the Arab homeland has all this wealth, then it is not poor. I will tell you that it is poor because we are not exploiting our wealth correctly. One example of this is oil. We extracted oil and bought Chevrolet cars with it or Mercedes or Cadillacs or chandeliers or refrigerators or anything else — useless things. What did we do with this wealth? Even today the homeland has no means to exploit the oil by transforming it into industries and energy. We sell it as crude like water and ask for money with which we buy goods from those to whom we sold the oil, as though we have given them the oil for free.

The states with ambitions to exploit the wealth of the Arab homeland are industrial states. They have an industrial base and factories and each one has a lot of power. These states resemble mills which need wheat to make flour. There are many mills in Europe and what they need to put into them is raw material; they have factories which require raw materials. They take oil from the Arab homeland. They take manganese, gold, silver, and phosphate.

Years ago, in the mid-1950's, Libyans used to sell scrap metal, drums, cans, bomb shells, etc. The Libyans became rich. The Libyans lived and thrived on this type of work. All the things they sold went to the factories of Europeans and the Israelis. At that particular time, the Israelis were establishing their factories for the production of military hardware. They gathered all the scrap metal and took it to...[incomplete sentence as heard] The Libyans were selling, but they did not know to whom they were selling.

There were collection centers in various parts of Libya. People used to take what they had gathered to these centers and get money for it. That meant that the Arabs — including ourselves — were unable to exploit the scrap metal. We used to sell it cheap to be turned into a car, for example, which we then used to buy; the scrap metals were transformed into guns which were then fired at us.

At this very moment you can travel in Libya and through other parts of the Arab homeland and see tonnes of scrap metal scattered over Libyan and Arab soil — neglected and thrown away. This means that the Arabs have been unable to collect the scrap metal to exploit by smelting it again and turning it into something useful like a machine, for example. What does this indicate? It indicates that the Arabs are unable to exploit the wealth that they have. When a colonialist comes, he uses it. Consider the experience of Italy or America or any other state occupying this area. After a month of occupation, you would see it collecting all the scrap metal in Libya. You ask: Why do they collect rusty and twisted iron? You cannot use it because you are weak and an agent working in the interest of the colonialists. They know the value of scrap metal because they are industrialists. The oil which you sell as crude, they transform into 300 industries.

When we recently celebrated the anniversary of the expulsion of the United States from Libya -- or was it the day before -- during this month of June -- the day before 11 June -- we opened an ethylene plant on the Gulf of Sidra. It transforms crude oil into ethylene, a simple material, instead of us selling it as crude. This factory should lead to the establishment of another 300 plants around it to ensure that this simple material can be processed into other materials; that is, raw material, then an intermediary material, and then manufactured materials. This is what they do abroad. This pen — its material — is made of ethylene. We can build a plant for producing pens. The frames of spectacles are made of ethylene. You can even go as far as manufacturing clothing materials, explosives, and even proteins.

This plant, which we recently opened at Ras Launf and which is run by Libyans, should now lead to the establishment of 300 plants around it that will take the ethylene and transform it into clothing materials, plastics, etc. When they [the industrial states] take crude oil from us, they transform it into these industries. When they occupy the Arab homeland, they take these raw materials and process them. They have factories. You have no factories. You sell your raw materials unprocessed. What do you get in return? Money. What do you get for your money? Goods from the same people to whom you sold the raw materials.

The battle now is between the Arabs and the Israelis. When we hear about Israeli raids and retaliatory action against terrorists or about a strike against a camp, all this is a deception. The battle that is now taking place is for control of the Jordan, Yarmuk, Asi, and Litani Rivers. All the battles that you hear about, which are being waged by the Israelis, as well as the air raids and their claims that "We have hit a headquarters of the fedayeen" and a building housing "terrorists," are but a deception to deceive the Arabs and the world alike. The battle that the Americans and the Israelis have agreed upon is for taking the waters from the Arabs, or whatever limited waters are left for the Arabs. These waters should be controlled, for water is the basis of life.

Without water there can be no industry, etc. Why can we not establish industry in the Arab homeland? Because there is no water. These establishments consume great quantities of fresh water. There is none. The Israelis think about the waters. All the battles that you hear about are a deception to conceal the reality of the conflict. The aim of the battle is to capture the water sources in the Syrian region so that millions of Jews can be settled in the area. They want to reach the Nile and Euphrates valleys. The Israelis are advancing toward the rivers, toward the sources of the waters; they do not advance toward other places. But we have never heard that their aim is to capture a river. Why? Because we are stupid. They deceive us by saying that the battle is against terrorists and against the Palestinians, the Syrians, the Lebanese, etc. Even when they strike against the Palestinians it is because these people constitute an obstacle to the settlement of Jews in the areas where there is water. The Israelis think that

they should launch a raid against them even in Tunisia because the fedayeen is a thorn in the side of an Israeli who wants to settle in this water-rich area.

The Israelis want the water. Whoever stands in their way is treated in this manner. If the Israelis triumph and seize the water in the Syrian region, then it will be the end of the Arab homeland. The homeland has nothing but the Nile and the Tigris, as well as the small amount of winter rain which falls in north Africa. The summer rain that falls on the Arabian Peninsula is too little. Therefore, the powers that believe in the necessity of subjugating the Arab homeland and preventing it from achieving unity are clamoring. In unity there lies power. These powers believe in the necessity of aborting any revolution in the Arab homeland; several revolutions have taken place but they were aborted. They think that any serious movement in the Arab homeland should be liquidated. This explains the mad, mad onslaught on Libya. They want to put an end to Libya by way of raids and blockades, as well as conspiracy. This is a goal from which they cannot retreat, because they want to dominate this homeland. They believe that the Palestinian resistance should be liquidated, as I have pointed out to you, because this resistance disturbs them in the area where they want to settle; namely, where water is found. As long as Libya resists the return of colonialism to the Arab homeland it should be liquidated so that a new regime can be established in Libya which will allow the colonialists to pass.

I would also like to say that Europe and America have incited the Africans against the Arabs. Instead of hating their colonialists — the Europeans who destroyed Africa, who made it backward, and who ignored it, regarding the African as being immature, like a gorilla, carrying out medical experiments on him in the interest of the white; the Europeans who practiced racial discrimination and who considered the black color to be an insult and cause for shame — instead of hating these colonialists who humiliated them, who insulted and abused them, who destroyed their countries, and who took all the African gold...[Al-Qadhdhafi changes thought] Ghana in Arabic means paradise; its name used to be the Gold Coast. Now Ghana has nothing; all the gold was taken away by the Europeans. Look at the other country, the Ivory Coast. Why do they call it the Ivory Coast? In order to distinguish it from the Gold Coast. Ghana is the Gold Coast and this is the Ivory Coast. [Video shows Al-Qadhdhafi pointing to map]. The Europeans found gold here and ivory here. They took all the contents from the mines and turned them into money and industries, as well as gold reserves. Instead of the Africans hating those who plundered their wealth, who humiliated them, who told them: You are blacks and not human. [sentence as heard] The Europeans made every effort to rechannel this hatred toward the Arabs. Consequently, the hatred of the blacks was channeled toward the Arabs in north Africa. They told the Africans that the Arab race in north Africa was an occupying race and that they were colonialists and racists. They told them: The Arabs hate you; the Arabs are not blacks; they are sharing Africa with you.

The naive Africans were brainwashed and believed what they were told. Now Habre hates the Arabs in Libya more than he hates those who are colonizing and destroying Chad; namely, the French and the Americans. Now he is in America. He is against the Arabs. This means that the colonialist propaganda succeeded in making the Africans hate the Arabs. This has led to the Arabs being encircled by strong hatred and ferocious ambitions — hatred by the negroes of Africa. This was the result of European propaganda which succeeded in inciting the Africans against the Arabs because they feared that such hatred might be channeled toward the Europeans, who actually deserve to be hated.

No matter how we may now try to defend the blacks and to say that they are human beings like the whites and that they are created by God — it was only colonialists who said that they are otherwise — we may say all of this but it will not get into the minds of the blacks, who state: You are Arabs and racists. The racists are those who make restaurants and cafes out of bounds to blacks. In America there are some restaurants for whites and others for blacks. The areas where blacks live are not inhabited by whites.

American Yankees are the dirty ones; they are the animals who do not deserve to live. They are nearer to swine and monkeys than the rest of the human race. They are actually not developed. Look at their behavior. Despite all this they belittle the blacks. They deserve to be hated and fought. But you now see the blacks in Africa being incited against the Arabs; you see them being deceived by the colonialists.

What is happening in Chad and southern Libya is a manifestation of this hatred and a success for the colonialist propaganda, which incited the Africans against their Arab brothers. In Southern Sudan, the same thing is taking place. In southern Mauritania, the same thing; the same thing is happening around Ethiopia — Somalia, Jibuti, Eritrea, Sudan — all this area; in all this area there is strong hatred toward the Arabs. The Israelis exploited Judaism; Zionism incited the Israelites against the Arabs. As for Europe and America, we have said enough about them; it is a foregone conclusion. They are bitter enemies of the Arabs; they want to finish the Arabs so that there are no Arabs on the earth. Their aim is to capture this homeland, as I have told you. The naive persons, the lackeys, the traitors, the simpletons, and the feminine are the Arab rulers who have befriended America, who smile at America and Europe, and who cooperate with them. They are their friends.

It is impossible for Europe or America to cooperate with the Arabs in such a way that may create an Arab power, because the creation of such a power is against their strategy. Any cooperation will be like building on sand. This is what they believe; they build it on sand so that it will collapse. The Arab rulers are so naive and simple as to believe that cooperation with Europe and America will lead to progress in their countries and in the Arab homeland. Nothing positive can be realized, not even until doomsday. On the contrary, such cooperation is harmful. The Europeans and Americans want to keep us away from industry, agriculture, andeducation, and from thinking about our future. They bring us gambling, drugs, alcohol, and night clubs in order to preoccupy us. They bring us all the things that make us unaware and lose conscience — the things that weaken us and the things that paralyze our energies. [passage omitted]

The Arabs should politically reconsider their identity -- Arabism, religion, and language. The war between Iran and Iraq — even if it basically differs from this objective — with the passage of

time can be used as an action hostile to the Arabs. Anything that can destroy the Arabs should be eliminated. The West and America harbor hatred against the Arabs and a desire to colonize the Arab homeland. They incite our African brothers against us and make them advance from the south against the Arab homeland. The Israelis have a strong hatred toward the Arabs; the existence of Israelis and the existence of Arabs are contradictory. The Gulf war constitutes another link in this chain. Even if we do not interpret it this way, this war will ultimately be used within this framework. You have now seen the dangers threatening the Arab homeland from the political, military, and economic points of view, and from the perspective of the internal situation. I have spoken about all of this. What is the solution? That is the solution that we originally wanted to speak about today, but it appears that we took too long and there is no time left.

[Passage indistinct] [Question from unidentified member of the audience] Do you consider the construction of the great man-made river as a positive or negative point, especially in view of the fact that an Arab scientist has criticized this project and said that it is a waste of time, money and effort?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] Good, good; this is an excellent question. No one has thought of this question among you. Good. By God, it is a very important question. Yes, give him the microphone; please ask.

[Unidentified student] The construction of the man-made river was carried out according to studies which proved that the subterranean waters will last for 50 years. After the water is exhausted, there will be no other water to flow in the river. Was the project planned on the basis that it will last for 50 years, or is it a first phase to be followed by a second? Can you answer the question please?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] This is not what we understood. What you have said is mere clarification.

[Unidentified student] [Question indistinct]

[Al-Qadhdhafi] Let us understand what you mean.

[Unidentified student] [Question indistinct]

[Al-Qadhdhafi] This is also clarification. It is not an answer. Give that person the microphone.

[Unidentified student] We understand from the clarification that the goal is to benefit from water resources. The entire land is desert, yet rich in oil. We do not benefit from this because in a certain number of years the oil will be exhausted. The benefit to be derived from the Chad water resources requires a study on the basis that we will try to cooperate fully with Chad in order to benefit from the Chadian waters because the land is desert. This is what is understood from the lecture delivered by the brother leader; namely, that the land is desert and will actually dry up.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] This is a clarification. Give the floor to the people sitting in other places, the Fatih University groups and others. [passage indistinct]

[Unidentified student] [passage indistinct] We should, frankly speaking, as jamahiri revolutionaries, continue to (?look into) our affairs on an ideological basis; this supposition is wrong and should be destroyed, right from its foundation; we should seriously think about transferring people to production positions.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] This is a good clarification. Give him the microphone. Give it to those within the Fatih University group in that stand.

[Unidentified student] The construction of the great man-made river project [words indistinct] either utter failure — the water of the project in Al-Kufrah and Al-Sarir was exploited, and which is sufficient for the next 50 years for these towns, thus the water would have been squandered uselessly in the hands of consumers. But if the water was made available to the dry arid desert areas, which cannot be exploited despite the presence of water in view of the fact that its soil is unsuitable for cultivation and that the water reached areas where good soil exists, instead of this remaining stored or present in the southern areas without being utilized, we have managed to utilize it and thus to be freed of some of our needs which depend on European colonialism; it prevents those people in the northern areas from being total consumers because water is not available and takes them to the production phase when water is available and suitable soil for agriculture. [sentence as heard]

[Al-Qadhdhafi] This is logical. [passage omitted]

BAHRAIN

Kuwait's Shaykh Sabah Delivers Message to Amir

JN241924 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1749 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Manama, 24 Jun (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, has received a written message from His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, amir of Kuwait, on existing brotherly bilateral relations. The message also concerns recent developments in the region and the holding of consultations on all issues concerning the region's security and stability. Issues of mutual interest are also discussed.

The message was conveyed by Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, when he was received by His Highness Shaykh 'Isa here this evening.

The meeting was attended by His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, heir apparent and commander in chief of the Defense Force, Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, minister of interior, and Ahmad al-Mubaraki, Kuwaiti ambassador to Bahrain.

OMAN

Zayid Praised for Efforts In Sharjah Crisis

JN241417 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 24 Jun 87

["Text" of Omani Sultani Court statement; date and place not given]

[Text] Led by His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, the Sultanate of Oman has followed with profound concern the recent events in the Sharjah Amirate in the fraternal UAE. It also paid great attention to the sincere efforts exerted by UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and his brothers their highnesses the rulers of the amirates and members of the Supreme Council. Furthermore, the Sultanate has closely observed the sincere spirit which had a far reaching effect in containing this transient crisis, healing the rift, and settling matters.

The Sultanate of Oman is pleased to express its sincere and great joy over the wise decisions reached as a result of the sagacity of their highnesses the chairman and members of the Supreme Council and of the concerned parties. The Sultanate also praises the efforts and constructive endeavors which stemmed from the importance of ensuring security and stability and from the continuous commitment to concord, unity, and the spirit of one family.

QATAR

Kuwait Foreign Minister Arrives 24 Jun

JN250716 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0520 GMT 25 Jun 87

[Text] Doha, 24 Jun (WAKH) — Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, arrived in Doha from Manama this evening. He is visiting Qatar as part of his current tour of the GCC states.

In an arrival statement to the *Qatari News Agency* , Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said that he is carrying written messages from his highness the amir of Kuwait to his brothers their majesties and highnesses the GCC leaders. The messages deal with the latest developments in the Gulf. They also concern consultations with GCC leaders on matters related to the region's stability and the avoidance of conflicts and wars. Cooperation among GCC states to bring about solutions to any conflict in the region is another topic of the messages. Receiving him on arrival were Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, Qatari minister of state for foreign affairs; Shaykh Hamad ibn Suhaym Al Thani, Foreign Ministry under secretary; and Khalifah Husayn al-Musallam, Kuwaiti ambassador to Qatar.

SAUDI ARABIA

Reportage on Visit by Kuwaiti Foreign Minister

Arrives in Jeddah

LD241337 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1310 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 24 Jun (SPA) — Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, arrived in Jeddah this afternoon. He was welcomed on arrival at King 'Abd al-'Aziz international airport in Jeddah by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and minister of defense and aviation and inspector general; and His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister. [passage omitted]

King Fahd Receives Shaykh Sabah

LD241410 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1359 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Jeddah, 24 Jun (SPA) — King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques, may God protect him, received at his office His Highness Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs. Shaykh Sabah conveyed to the custodian of the two holy mosques a written message from his brother His Highness Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, amir of the State of Kuwait.

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation and inspector general; His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister; and 'Abdallah al-Sudayri, ambassador of the custodian of the two holy mosques to Kuwait.

Shaykh Sabah Departs

LD242021 Kuwait KUNA in English 1640 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Riyadh, June 24 (KUNA) — The deputy premier and foreign minister of Kuwait Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir left Jeddah on Wednesday after delivering a message from H.H. the amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad to King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz on current developments in the region.

Shaykh Sabah, who arrived here early today conveyed the message to King Fahd in the presence of the first deputy premier and defense and aviation minister and inspector general Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and the foreign minister prince Sa'ud al-Faysal.

From Britain, which is Shaykh Sabah's second stop in his current Gulf tour, the Kuwaiti top diplomat will visit Qatar and the Sultanate of Oman before returning home, relaying similar messages.

Prince Sa'ud and senior Saudi officials and the Kuwaiti ambassador to Saudi Arabia 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-'Sidari saw Shaykh Sabah off at the airport.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Efforts to Settle Crisis in Sharjah Continue

'Abd al-'Aziz Given 'Guarantees'

JN241611 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 24 Jun 87 pp 1, 21

[Husayn 'Abd al-Rahman dispatch from Sharjah]

[Text] The crisis of the Amirate of Sharjah ended yesterday with a reconciliation between Shaykh Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi and his brother Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz in the city of Al-'Ayn. They made a joint appearance in a television clip shown at the beginning of the news bulletin of UAE television in Abu Dhabi. This reconciliation was sponsored by Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, chairman of the UAE Supreme Council, and the other UAE rulers.

For the first time since his seizure of power in Sharjah last Wednesday, Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi left the Government House at 1030 yesterday. He boarded a helicopter which was waiting for him behind the Government House and flew to Al-'Ayn where he held bilateral meetings with most of the UAE Supreme Council members. Accompanied by Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz, the Supreme Council members then left for Al-Maqam Palace in the Al-'Ayn area which is 150 km from Al-Shariqah. At 1830 Kuwait time Shaykh Sultan, the legitimate ruler of Sharjah, arrived at Al-Maqam Palace where he met with his brother 'Abd al-'Aziz in the presence of Shaykh Zayid.

Al-Qabas has learned that an agreement was reached to appoint 'Abd al-'Aziz heir apparent and deputy ruler of Sharjah while all his other demands were rejected as reported by *Al-Qabas* the day before yesterday.

Sources close to Shaykh Sultan confirmed *Al-Qabas*' report on the demobilization of the Amiri Guards Corps in the Amirate of Sharjah and the merger of all its personnel in the Federal Army. The UAE Supreme Council has decided to demobilize it. This decision will be implemented immediately after Shaykh Sultan's return to the Amirate. These sources said that Shaykh Sultan will issue an Amiri decree demobilizing the Amiri Guards Corps.

Al-Qabas has also learned from sources in Abu Dhabi that Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz has complied with his appointment as deputy ruler after receiving guarantees from the UAE Supreme Council members. He agreed to settle differences with his brother Shaykh Sultan after these guarantees were confirmed.

The UAE Supreme Council concluded its extraordinary meeting by issuing a statement confirming the appointment of Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz as heir apparent and deputy ruler. This empowers him to deputize for Shaykh Sultan in chairing Sharjah's Executive Council. He is also allowed to attend Supreme Council sessions in his capacity as heir apparent.

Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz was appointed heir apparent by Shaykh Sultan himself because the UAE Supreme Council is not entitled to appoint the heir apparent of any amirate. The Federal Constitution lacks a clause to this effect.

Statement Praises Zayid's Work

JN241152 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1139 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 24 Jun (WAKH) — The UAE National Consultative Council has issued a statement saying that it is pleased with the reconciliation achieved in the Sharjah Amirate. It said that these results were accomplished by the UAE Supreme Council under UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan. The following is the text of the statement:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The National Consultative Council, chairman and members, would like to express its extreme pleasure with the good and reassuring results achieved by the UAE Supreme Council under His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan with regard to developments in the Sharjah Amirate. The Council is thankful for and appreciates the wisdom and sincerity of Shaykh Zayid and his brothers, members of the UAE Supreme Council. The Council also appreciates their fruitful efforts to safeguard the country's security and stability. We beseech Almighty God to preserve our country's wise leadership and to grant it success.

Battle Reports From Gulf War Zone Continue

Communique No 2,720 Issued

JN241647 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Communique No 2,720 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 24 June 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Through their heroic struggle and great determination, our brave soldiers are confirming Iraq's ability to crush the despotic Khomeyniite clique and to inflict disasters on it everywhere and at any time to counter Iran's insistence on continuing the war and aggression against our country.

The following is a roundup for activities for last night and today:

1. Our Air Force carried out 22 combat missions against enemy units today and inflicted further losses on enemy rogues, equipment, and vehicles. Our aircraft then returned safely to base, God be praised.

2. A number of our valiant formations in the I Army Corps northern sector carried out brave attacks on enemy units. Artillery and tank fire was also directed at enemy concentrations, vehicles, and positions in various areas of this sector. The despotic aggressors sustained heavy losses and a number of sources of enemy fire were silenced.

3. One of our units in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris attacked three enemy boats loaded with personnel as they were attempting to approach our forward positions. These craft were forced to flee after a number of their occupants were either killed or wounded.

4. An enemy patrol approached one of our forward positions in the V Army Corps northern sector. Our men fired on this patrol, killing or wounding a number of its personnel while the remainder fled.

5. One single-barrel machinegun was destroyed and its crew killed, and two ammunition dumps were blown up in the VII Army Corps sector.

6. Two ammunition dumps were detonated, enemy engineering works were attacked, and a number of enemy personnel were killed in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah.

7. One enemy soldier was killed in the II Army Corps sector.

8. The criminal enemy shelled residential districts in the city of Abu al-Khasib with long-range artillery. The enemy shelling damaged houses and a number of shops.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 24 June 1987

Spokesman Denies Plane Downed

JN241749 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1734 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Jun (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has denied that a fighter plane has been downed, as was announced by Tehran radio in the military communique it presented this evening.

In a statement to INA, the spokesman said that all Iraqi aircraft that carried out combat missions today have returned safely to base.

Enemy Losses in I Sector Noted

JN250852 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0836 GMT 25 Jun 87

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Jun (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has stated that Iranian losses as a result of the Iraqi forces' concentrated blows in the I Army Corps northern sector on the night of 23-24 June exceeded 400 killed. This was in addition to the large number of Iranian personnel who were wounded. Quantities of weapons, equipment, and military hardware were also destroyed, he added.

In a statement to INA, the military spokesman said that these Iraqi blows were aimed at Iranian troop concentrations and supply routes. Various types of weapons were used against the enemy in the operation.

Iranian Civilians Not Targeted

JN251003 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0925 GMT 25 Jun 87

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Jun (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has denied Iranian claims that Iraqi aircraft bombed purely residential areas inside Iran.

In a statement to INA, the military spokesman asserted that the Iraqi air activity was confined to bombing Iranian military targets. He said that these false Iranian allegations seek to justify the Iranian rulers' strikes against Iraq's solely residential areas, similar to Iran's daily shelling of Iraqi residential areas with long-range artillery. In conclusion, the military spokesman warned Iran against continuing this course of action and against shelling any Iraqi residential areas. He asserted that this will meet with a devastating Iraqi reply that Iran's rulers will not be able to endure.

UN Security Council Told of Iranian Shelling

JN181603 Baghdad INA in English 1550 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] United Nations, June 18, INA — The United Nations Security Council was informed today of another attack on purely civilian targets in Iraq by the Iranian aggressor forces.

In a letter distributed to the Council on instructions of U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, Iraqi Ambassador to the U.N. 'Ismat Kittani called attention to the long-range artillery shelling on Tuesday [16 June] of the Iraqi southern town of

Abu al-Khasib, which caused damage to civilian property and commercial stores.

Visiting CPC Delegation Begins Talks 20 Jun

Meets With Hasan 'Ali

JN210855 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1746 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Jun (INA) — Hasan 'Ali, secretary general of the Progressive National and Patriotic Front, met here today with a CPC delegation led by Zhu Shanqin, deputy director of the International Liaison Department of the CPC Central Committee. During the meeting, Hasan 'Ali briefed the visiting delegation on the structure and duties of his organization, as well as its effective role in mobilizing the energies of the masses to confront the plots, challenges, and aggression of the Zionist Iranian enemy against Iraq.

The CPC delegation's leader expressed appreciation for Iraq's positive and principled position which seeks to end the war with Iran through peaceful means.

Cooperation Agreement Signed

JN211257 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] A cooperation agreement was signed between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the CPC in Baghdad today. The signatory for the Ba'th Party was Comrade 'Adnan Dawud Salman, deputy official in charge of the Ba'th Party National Command's Foreign Relations Bureau, while Zhu Shanqin, deputy director of the CPC Central Committee's International Liaison Department, signed on behalf of his party. The agreement stresses the desire of both countries to develop and strengthen friendship and cooperation based on a joint understanding of the principles of the two parties' full independence and equality. The agreement also includes provisions on the need for delegations from both parties to exchange visits, to promote relations between the popular organizations of their nations,and to exchange documents and publications. It should be noted that the two parties signed a similar agreement in late 1984.

Meets With Minister Ramadan

JN211418 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1328 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Jun (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deptuy prime minister, met here today with a CPC delegation led by Zhu Shanqin, deputy director of the CPC Central Committee's International Liaison Department. The two sides discussed bilateral relations and ways to promote them in all fields in the interests of both countries.

Taha Yasin Ramadan reviewed the Iranian regime's policy of aggression, Iran's insistence on escalating its aggression against Iraq, and the latter's rejection of international resolutions, thus demonstrating its lack of respect for the international community.

Zhu Shanqin praised Iraq's stands and its positive efforts to end the Gulf war and establish peace through peaceful means. He also stated that the PRC's command and people are proud of their advanced relations with Iraq and eager to promote them in all fields to the benefit of both friendly countries.

Confers With Industry Minister

JN221428 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1344 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Jun (INA) — Iraqi Minister of Industry Hatim 'Abd al-Rashid met here today with Zhu Shanqin, deputy director of the CPC Central Committee's International Liaison Department, and his accompanying delegation who are currently visiting Iraq.

During the meeting, which was attended by the PRC ambassador to Baghdad, the two sides discussed ways to bolster and promote bilateral relations to serve both peoples' mutual interests.

Oil Minister Leaves for OPEC Meeting in Vienna

JN240943 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0750 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Jun (INA) — Oil Minister 'Isam 'Abd al-Rahim departed for Vienna today to head the Iraqi delegation to OPEC's 81st ministerial conference, which is due to begin there tomorrow.

In a statement to INA, the minister stressed that Iraq will continue to adhere to its declared stand on oil production and the member states' quotas. Iraq believes that its quota should be equal to that of Iran and that any other alternative to this will not be accepted. The minister stated: Our stand toward a price structure will favor an agreement to achieve stability in oil markets and to support OPEC's resolution in this regard.

The conference will discuss developments on the international oil market, OPEC's production policy, price structures, the appointment of a secretary general, and other issues.

Soviet Consular Delegation Expected in '6 Days'

TA250757 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
25 Jun 87 pp 1, 7

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] The Soviet consular delegation is expected to arrive in 6 days. This was revealed in a report that reached Jerusalem yesterday, which says that 10 Soviet officials who received visas to Israel during the second half of June will come.

Senior political sources have told *Ha'aretz* that during the course of the delegation's 3-month stay here, Israel expects that Moscow will accede to Israel's request for visas to the Soviet Union for an Israeli delegation. If the request is turned down, a prospective Soviet request to extend the validity of its visas by another 3 months will be denied. Recent contacts with the Soviets indicate that they do indeed intend to request such an extension.

Senior circles in Jerusalem told *Ha'aretz* that there was no room to grant the Soviets visas for more than 1 or 2 weeks to begin with, as long as they have not accepted the principle of reciprocity. The Inner Cabinet had decided that this principle will be upheld, but did not insist on the simultaneous issue of visas.

USSR Group 'Not Low Level'

TA242017 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
2000 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] The question of Soviet participation in the peace process in the Middle East was the main topic in Foreign Minister Peres' talks with French President Mitterrand. Gid'on Kouts, our correspondent in Paris, reports that one of the 10 members of the Soviet consular delegation that will visit Israel is a senior official in the Soviet Foreign Ministry. Hence, the delegation will not be a low-level one. This member is the deputy chief of the Near Eastern Countries Department in the Soviet Foreign Ministry.

Our correspondent adds that Mr Peres will spend this coming Friday and Saturday at a rural villa in Switzerland that belongs to a Jewish family. His confidants denied rumors to the effect that he was going to have secret meetings over the weekend.

Shamir Denounces Pope's Invitation to Waldheim

TA220857 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 22 Jun 87 pp 1, 2

[Report by Bernard Josephs]

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Shamir yesterday blasted the pope's decision to grant an audience to Austrian President Kurt Waldheim. He said that the invitation from the Vatican could be seen "as a kind of legitimization" of the crimes that Waldheim was accused of.

Shamir's remarks, made at a press conference at the Prime Minister's Office following his return from his four-nation African tour, are likely to deepen the rift between Vienna and Jerusalem over the affair. [passage omitted]

Shamir said there was nothing Israel could do, "except express unhappiness and regret" over the pope's decision. He said: "Taking into account the fact that there are very severe accusations against Waldheim, this could be explained to the world as a kind of legitimization of the crimes he committed, according to these accusations." [passage ommitted]

Terms Meeting 'Disappointment'

TA251054 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1030 GMT 25 Jun 87

[Text] A short while ago, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir reacted to the meeting in Rome between the pope and Austrian President Kurt Waldheim, saying: It causes us great disappointment. We are tempted to say: Well, what else could we have expected? Could we have expected anything else from these people? I hope, Shamir said, that the people who committed this deed deplore it. The prime minister's remarks were reported by our correspondent in the south, 'Ezra Yanuv. [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 1000 GMT on 25 June adds that "Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has called the meeting between the pope and Austrian President Kurt Waldheim scandalous."]

Envoys To Tone Down Criticism

TA240855 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
24 Jun 87 pp 1, 2

[Report by 'Aqiva Eldar, Hulda Liveranoma, and Ori Nir]

[Excerpt] Israel's ambassadors in Europe and the United States have recently received instructions to tone down their criticism of the Vatican's invitation to Austrian President Kurt Waldheim. Foreign Ministry specialists have explained to the ambassadors that the tension between Israel and Austria and the Vatican must not be exacerbated. They expect Waldheim to make a confession before the pope and to seek forgiveness for his deeds during World War II. Israel's friends in Vienna, including certain Austrian Foreign Ministry and other government officials, have been pressuring the Austrian Government to extend the term of Dr Otto Pleinert as ambassador to Israel by another year. The Israeli Foreign Ministry believes that toning down the attack on Waldheim could prevent the lowering of the level of diplomatic relations between Austria and Israel, which would otherwise happen upon Pleinert's departure from Israel at the end of his tour of duty since Austria will not assign a new ambassador. The Israeli Embassy in Rome has been instructed to explain the Israeli condemnation of the audience the pope is granting Waldheim, resulting from the need to acquiesce to the wishes of U.S. Jewish leaders. [passage omitted]

Envoy Conveys Knesset Resolution

TA250800 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
25 Jun 87 pp 1, 7

[Report from Italy by Hulda Liveranoma]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Mikha'el Peled, Vatican affairs adviser at the Israeli Embassy in Rome, yesterday initiated a

meeting with Monsignor Luigi Gatti, who is in charge of Middle East affairs in the Vatican Secretary of State's Office, during which he conveyed the Israel Government resolution as delivered at the Knesset 2 days ago.

The communique conveyed by Mikha'el Peled to Gatti explains that Israel has no intention of interfering in the Vatican City-State's internal affairs. [passage omitted]

The meeting, which lasted approximately 40 minutes, was described as friendly, but no detailed reports on the content of the exchanges was available. [passage omitted]

Kimche Conducts Talks With Nigeria on Ties

TA240907 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 24 Jun 87 p 2

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Excerpt] Former Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche has been holding contacts with Nigeria on resuming ties with Israel.

Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres had asked Kimche to pursue his efforts on this matter even after his retirement. It has been learned that reports by Kimche, as well as by other Israeli elements active in Nigeria, emphasize that Nigeria is ready in principle to resume its diplomatic relations with Israel, although it has also explained that due to internal problems such a move is still premature. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir heard statements along a similar vein from Kenya's President Daniel arap Moi, with whom he conferred while his plane was refueling at Nairobi airport. [passage omitted]

Defense Minister Views Gulf War Implications

TA241748 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Talking in Jerusalem this afternoon about the peace process, Defense Minister Rabin said the Gulf war between Iran and Iraq means that Jordan has greater maneuverability for seeking peace with Israel. The defense minister was speaking to members attending the annual meeting of the Jewish Agency. More details from reporter Dick Winter:

[Begin recording] [Winter] Defense Minister Rabin said he wanted to give a wider picture of the political situation in the Middle East without which, he said, it would be impossible to understand Israel's policies. He stressed that the Gulf war between Iran and Iraq has been one of the most important recent developments in the region.

[Rabin] The war between Iraq and Iran practically and gradually changed the whole realignment within the Arab world in favor of Egypt, because Syria became the only Arab country that continued to support Iran against Iraq and the pendulum moved from isolation of Egypt to isolation of Syria.

[Winter] Rabin said the Soviet Union is now trying to swing the pendulum back in favor of Syria and to end its isolation, but the greatest effect of the Gulf war, says Rabin, has been on Jordan. With its close ally Iraq tied up with Iran, King Husayn now has greater political maneuverability to be more moderate in his anti-Israel stand.

[Rabin] And no doubt in my mind that as long as the war between Iraq and Iran goes on, King Husayn — who would like to end the war, but as long as it continues, has got much more freedom of political maneuverability — that once the war will be ended an Iraq that was extreme, bitter enemy of Israel, not less than Iran, both of them are bitter enemies of Israel, will have much less freedom of political maneuverability. [sentence as heard]

[Winter] On other issues, Defense Minister Rabin said the peace treaty with Egypt has gone on for 8 years and in the Middle East, he said, this is a long time indeed. [end recording]

AL-QUDS Questions Syrian Policies in Lebanon

TA231923 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 19 Jun 87 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "Syria, Lebanon, and the PLO"]

[Text] The abrogation of the Cairo agreement signed between the Lebanese Government and the PLO in 1969 reflects the political tendencies toward the Palestinian presence in Lebanon, as this agreement is considered the only document determining Lebanese-Palestinian relations in all spheres. Its unilateral abrogation proves the unwillingness of the Lebanese Government, as well as those parties supporting it, to have a framework regulating Palestinian-Lebanese relations.

The official abrogation of this agreement by the Lebanese Government — under circumstances in which sectarian leaders and warlords are in control, Lebanon's unity is nonexistent, its sovereignty is fragmented, foreign forces are present on its soil, and its laws are diversified — will undoubtedly mean that the Palestinian people in the Lebanese refugee camps will be at the mercy of a state of anarchy, confusion, and collapse of central authority.

Amid this deteriorating political climate, the Syrian Government has announced its consent and support for the abrogation of the Cairo agreement. It has called for endorsing a new agreement on Palestinian-Lebanese relations, which has been signed by the Amal Movement militias and the PNSF but has not yet been approved by the official Lebanese authorities. Syria has thus violated all its declared policies toward Lebanon and the Palestinian cause.

With respect to Lebanon, Syria has called for its territorial integrity, independence, national sovereignty, and liberation from all foreign and domestic pressures. If Syria wants to act to achieve these lofty goals, it should try to eliminate the numerous sovereignties brought about by the various Lebanese militias. This is in the interest of Lebanon's supreme sovereignty and its central government. When Syria sends tanks and weapons to the militias, signs agreements with them, works to consolidate their status by calling for the conclusion of agreements between them and regional and international parties, it is thus contributing

directly to destroying the pillars of Lebanese authority represented by supreme sovereignty.

With respect to the Palestinian cause, when Syria supports the abrogation of the Cairo agreement, signed between the PLO and the Lebanese Government, and calls for endorsing a new agreement between the Amal Movement and the PNSF, it is announcing the PLO's illegitimacy. It is publicly calling for the creation of an alternative leadership, showing disregard for all Palestinian efforts to unify the PLO and to determine its relations with the concerned Arab parties, including Lebanon.

Acting to destroy Lebanon's sovereignty and the Palestinian people's political identity by supporting "alternatives" can lead nowhere but to further chaos, confusion, and disarray, all of which envelop the Arab world's political and diplomatic infrastructures. We are not sure what the Arab governments and nations have achieved by this climate of political discord, fragmentation of sovereignty, and lack of security caused by policies based on personal interests and aspirations.

Strike by West Bank, Gaza Arabs 'Significant'

TA241819 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 24 Jun 87 p 1

[Editorial: "Strike Day, Equality Day"]

[Text] The strike today by Palestinian Arabs in Israel under the slogan of "Equality Day" comes within the framework of a complete Arab consensus as stated by Ibrahim Nimr Husayn, chairman of theNational Board of Arab Councils and Mayor of Shefar'am. Palestinian laborers from the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip, who basically work in Israel, are also participating. The strike includes popular, official, and political figures, as well as Arab Knesset members and every existing movement. It is a prominent and significant step, which imposes itself on the Israeli Government, for the Arab voice in Israel to be heard loudly and clearly. This step also seriously calls for equality and the resolution of many problems connected with the financial situation of Arab municipalities and councils, education, sanitation, expansion of town dwellings, and preventing the destruction of existing buildings.

For its part, the Histadrut opposed this strike and announced its anticipated opposition 3 days ago through its central committee. It claimed the strike was a mere political act, without paying attention, despite its trade union character, to the minimum legitimate Arab demands in Israel and to the evident and grave injustice inflicted daily on every Arab resident in Israel.

The Histadrut did not suffice with this alone but also affirmed that it will not concern itself with the rights of Arab laborers, against whom arbitrary measures might be adopted by Israeli employers or officials at centers where these laborers work.

This stance by the Histadrut was totally expected, and in itself represents another reason for the significance of the comprehensive Arab strike in Israel. In addition to all other reasons, this significance reinforces the certainty and success of this comprehensiveness, as well as the solidarity and support of all Arab residents and the awareness and solidarity of Jewish democratic forces in Israel. These forces enjoy obvious significance, particularly when, by supporting the rights of Arab residents they find wider support for the aspired peace in the region.

The Israeli Government, with its various institutions and organizations, has closed its eyes for a long time to the rights and demands of Arab residents in Israel in all their capacities. Since the Israeli Government maintains its glaring indifference toward the rights and demands of Arab citizens, this comprehensive, widespread, and effective strike will necessarily produce a legitimate response regarding the ability of those residents to paralyze the entire Israeli economy in 1 day.

Organizers 'Delighted' With Strike

TA250826 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 25 Jun 87 pp 1, 8

[Report by David Rudge and Elaine Fletcher]

[Excerpt] Shefar'am — Hundreds of thousands of Israeli Arabs carried out a countrywide general strike yesterday to protest against discriminatory government policies and to demand equal rights.

The one-day nationwide stoppage passed quietly, unlike previous such demonstrations in 1976 and 1982. Police were on the alert but maintained a low profile.

Throughout the Arab sector, schools, shops and businesses were closed and local authority services came to a standstill. Government offices, including the postal service, were the notable exceptions. Egged continued to operate buses in the Arab towns and villages.

Arabs employed in the Jewish sector, in the construction industry and at restaurants, hotels and factories, particularly in the north, also responded to the strike call and stayed home.

Delighted organizers, who had taken pains to ensure that the strike not be marred by violence, maintained that support for the strike among the country's 600,000 Israeli Arabs had been almost total. A few, however, ignored the strike call and reported for work in the Jewish sector as usual; but they were only a small minority, the organizers claimed.

But Moshe Arens, the minister responsible for Arab affairs, yesterday expressed satisfaction at what he called "the partial scope of the strike," according to Israel Radio. Arens noted that the Bedouin had not joined the strike at all, and stressed that the government should not surrender to such strikes.

"The Arabs have legitimate claims, but this strike was organized by the Communist Party using threats and sometimes violence," Arens said on Israel Television last night.

"This is the first time in our history that the Arab community has been so united around a single issue," declared Dr. Majid al-Haji, one of the coordinators at the national strike committee's headquarters in Shefar'am.

"We delivered our message that Arabs, as Israeli citizens, are no longer prepared to put up with the government's discriminatory policies," he said.

"We hope the government will draw the obvious conclusions and take the appropriate measures to remedy the inequality and injustice."

Al-Hajj, a lecturer at Haifa University and chairman of the follow-up committee on Arab education, warned that the strike was not the last step in their campaign.

"We will continue the fight, using all the legitimate means at our disposal, until our demands for equal rights are met," he declared.

The national strike committee is to meet next week to decide on further moves, if the government fails to respond positively by then. Their immediate demands are for a moratorium on the demolition of homes built without permits in the Arab sector; consolidation of the NIS [New Israeli Shekel] 50 million in debts accumulated by the 46 Arab local councils, and a massive increase in their annual budgets; the establishment of local and regional planning committees to draw up development plans for towns and villages; additional funding to build 200 new classrooms a year for the next five years in the Arab sector and improvements in school curricula and facilities; cancellation of discriminatory tuition fees; beefed-up programmes to help create industry and increase job opportunities in the Arab sector.

They also want more government assistance to improve relations between Jews and Arabs generally and to curb the spread of racism.

The organizers claimed that yesterday's strike was also supported by the majority of Bedouin local councils. The two Circassian settlements, Kafr Kama, near Har Tavor, and Rihaniya, near Zefat did not participate. Similarly, only two Druze villages — Bayt Jann and Maghar — out of the 10 Druze local authorities joined in the strike. [passage omitted]

Strike Marks 'New Stage'

TA250839 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 25 Jun 87 p 1

["News analysis" by Yehuda Litani]

[Text] Yesterday's "Equality Day" general strike by Israel's Arab minority ushered in a new stage in this sector's struggle for equal rights.

It marked the shift of the struggle from extra-legal campaigns — using demonstrations, violent clashes with the IDF and the police, the organization of underground cells operating in the name of the PLO, and other such tactics — to a new stage that exploits legal methods.

For the first time since 1948, Israeli Arabs are united in their demand for a bigger slice of the national pie. The minority is using the old slogans of "one man one vote" and "no taxation without representation" in demanding the same services provided by the state to the Jewish majority. These demands include bigger budgets for the Arab local authorities, grants to cover their deficits, funds for more classrooms, improvements in the health services provided to the Arabs and so on.

According to the Declaration of Independence, the non-Jewish minorities in Israel should enjoy the same rights as everyone else. But even the government admitted recently that the Arabs in Israel do not enjoy equal rights. In deciding a few months ago to grant equal rights to the Druze and the Circassian minorities the government implicity acknowledged that the biggest minority, the Israeli Arabs, did not enjoy such rights.

The almost complete success of the "equality day" strike yesterday gave expression to a position around which the Arabs are united: they are no longer willing to accept prior service in the IDF as a condition for equal rights. "We demand our rights," the Israeli Arabs are saying, "even if we do not serve in the Army. We cannot serve in it because we cannot fight our own brothers in the Middle East."

For the first time, Israel's Jewish majority is faced with a choice between two values on which the state was founded: national-Zionist interests against democratic-liberal values.

It seems that this united front of Israeli-Arabs that was created recently will continue with the same extra-parliamentary but definitely legal methods for the foreseeable future. These are the classic tactics used by minorities in addition to the campaign within the political framework in the Knesset, the government and the local councils.

Yesterday's "Equality Day" message from the Israeli-Arabs to the Jewish majority was: This is not just a Jewish state but a Jewish state with an Arab minority.

AL-NAHAR Comments on Al-Masri's Assassins

TA240728 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic 20 Jun 87 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "When the Pain Is Rekindled"]

[Text] Yesterday it was announced that the cell responsible for the assassination of the late Zafir al-Masri has been uncovered. It was not made up of Israeli extremists but sons of the West Bank.

The Palestinian people can never forget the continuous pain caused by the memory of the martyrdom of Zafir and the string of others who, like him, became the victims of their positions. There is a deep pain and wound in the heart of every Palestinian because Zafir was not martyred by the enemies of the Palestinian people. Zafir, the man, has passed away, and the only crime he committed was that he loved his homeland and his people.

The pain and grief of our Palestinian people, rekindled by this announcement, is twofold. It is anchored first in the loss of a devoted son from the sons of this homeland and nation, and second in the fact that the hand that assassinated him — if the

announcement proves to be correct — is also from this nation which has been and continues to be stung by such behavior.

Zafir al-Masri died for the sake of his homeland and for the principles he believed in and defended. Unfortunately, the policy and positions we were hoping had disappeared from our midst, since the time when we began to suffer so greatly from such behavior, live on.

Our principles and modes of action may differ, but the principle that a hand should not be raised against a brother should be above all this. A human life is sacred and divine laws govern its status.

It is beneath our dignity to harbor those who assassinate the notables of this land at a time of occupation when we are in need of leaders and positions.

Is it not our duty to teach our children that the PLO, which is the symbol of the cause, is the patron of all its sons?

Rabin Pressing for Lavi Decision on 28 Jun

TA240902 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 24 Jun 87 p 2

[Report by military affairs correspondent Re'uven Pedatzur]

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin is pressuring the Cabinet ministers to conclude the debate on the future of the Lavi at the upcoming Cabinet session on Sunday.

Over the past few days, Minister Rabin said that the debate should go on until a decision is made, "even if this means that the Cabinet will remain in session until midnight."

It seems the pressure the defense minister is applying to the Cabinet stems from a clarification the U.S. Administration has conveyed to the Defense Ministry, stipulating that no debate will be held on the Israeli request for U.S. military assistance for next year until the Israeli Government has reached a decision on the Lavi.

The U.S. Administration has furthermore canceled a session on the military grant that was scheduled to take place in Washington 3 weeks ago between delegations from the two countries. At the same time, Minister Rabin would like every minister to express his opinion on the Lavi before the Cabinet takes a vote on the matter. Many of the ministers may take a stand only after they hear the defense minister's position. Minister Rabin will probably conclude the debate by stating that he would not object to pursuing the project if the Cabinet were to agree to allocate an additional $220 million a year to the defense budget. In the absence of resources for this supplementary budget, Rabin thinks it would be impossible to pursue the development of the Lavi.

Says Lavi Has 'Substitute'

TA241703 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] The defense minister thinks that even on Sunday the Cabinet will be unable to decide on the question of the further development of the Lavi plane. He told the Knesset plenum that all the members of the Knesset Finance Committee and the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee would be gathering in his office the day after tomorrow, at which time they would receive all the data in the defense establishment's possession on the Lavi.

Mr Rabin said the decision on whether to continue with the project may well be the most difficult question that has confronted an Israeli Government. Looking at it from the short-term military viewpoint, the defense minister added, the Lavi does have a substitute. Within the framework of the current budget there is no possibility to continue with the project because it would mean a blow to the Air Force, the Navy, and the ground forces. The money invested to date, he said, has produced and will produce a great technological benefit; but before deciding on further development, there must be an answer as to how other necessary fields would be developed.

Our Knesset correspondent notes that Rabin was replying to Knesset Member [MK] Yosi Sarid, who wanted the project to be stopped, and MK David Magen, who supports the Lavi production.

Manpower Team on Cancellation

TA240425 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0400 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] A team from the Manpower Development and Vocational Training Division believes that the cancellation of the Lavi project will bring about the dismissal of approximately 2,500 workers. Some of this manpower will be absorbed by companies working on developing alternatives to the Lavi. However, the team believes that continuing the project and increasing the defense budget might rekindle inflation and harm the welfare, education, and health budgets. Imposing a tax to finance the Lavi project will destroy any chances of renewing economic growth. The conclusions of the team were reviewed by our correspondent Arye Salman.

Navy Commander Ben-Shoshan on Procurement Needs

TA230855 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Israeli Navy Commander Rear Admiral Avraham Ben-Shoshan says that regardless of the Lavi project, the Navy will have to receive its share to acquire vessels and weapons systems. In a news conference on the occasion of Israeli Navy Day, Rear Adm Ben-Shoshan said that all those who think the vessels that were good 20 years will still be good in another 20 years might bring about the end of the Israeli Navy.

Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that the Navy commander emphasized that the decision to launch negotiations on the construction of vessels and submarines for the Navy will not be made as long as the Lavi issue remains unresolved. Nevertheless, he pointed to the improvements the Navy has made in terms of manpower and the simulators which make it possible to save hours spent on training at sea.

Replying to a question by our correspondent, Rear Adm Ben-Shoshan said that the Israeli Navy provides information to countries where terrorists try to purchase naval equipment in order to thwart such deals.

Deputy Interior Minister Roni Milo Resigns

TA241925 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Deputy Minister Roni Milo has resigned from the post of deputy minister of the interior. In his announcement to the prime minister, Roni Milo says that he will not continue to deal with Interior Ministry affairs as a result of the refusal by Director General Arye Der'i to implement the decision to erase the special identification numbers given to adopted Brazilian children.

Knesset Member Milo told our correspondent Rami Weitz that it was Director General Der'i who should resign. However, because he is at the center of the issue, Milo himself had submitted his resignation. In reaction to Milo's remarks, Rabbi Arye Der'i expressed regret about the affair. On the issue itself, he pointed out that today he met with the prime minister, who is acting interior minister, and reported to him on his activity on the issue. He received his blessing.

OMETZ Party Executive Approves Deal With Likud

TA191337 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 19 Jun 87 p 6

[Report by Menahem Rahat]

[Text] The OMETZ [Movement for Economic Recovery/ Courage] Party Executive yesterday accepted the Likud's proposal to join its ticket for the next Knesset election in exchange for two safe places and one "half-safe" place on the ticket.

The Likud proposal promises OMETZ the 6th place in the Likud ticket; another place between the 20th and 30th places; a third spot between the 40th and 50th places; and one place from the 60th spot downward.

It should be noted that the Likud proposal does not include a demand that OMETZ support Likud policy in such areas as foreign affairs and defense, economy, social affairs, and so forth. The proposal discusses only one issue: safeguarding the places for OMETZ.

The Likud proposal was approved by a majority of 90 percent of approximately 40 executive members who participated in the discussion.

The Executive unanimously agreed that the OMETZ ticket for the next Knesset will be headed by Minister Yiga'el Hurvitz. The second place will be reserved for former Knesset Member Zalman Shoval.

Poll Shows Alignment-Likud Gap Narrowing

TA191233 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 19 Jun 87 p 1

[Text] The gap between the Likud and the Alignment is narrowing and an absolute majority of the public objects to holding early elections because of the dispute over the international conference. This emerges from a poll conducted by the Dahaf institute under Dr Mina Tzemah at the request of *Yedi'ot Aharonot*.

The poll was conducted during the second week of June 1987 and included 1,179 people who constitute a representative cross-section of the adult Jewish population, except kibbutz residents. At the same time, in computing the forecast, the voting patterns of the kibbutz and Arab sectors were also taken into consideration.

Below are the results of the survey:

Question: If Knesset elections were held now, what ticket would you vote for? (results in Knesset seats)

	June 1987	May 1987	Current Knesset
Alignment plus Yahad	44	46	40
Likud	37	37	41
MAPAM	2	2	6
Tehiya	8	7	5
Shinuy	4	3	3
Citizens Rights Movement	5	5	4
National Religious Party plus Morasha	5	6	6
Agudat Yisra'el	2	2	2
SHAS [Torah Observing Sephardim]	4	4	4
KAKH	3	2	1
OMETZ	-	-	1
TAMI [Traditional Movement, Israel]	-	-	1
HADASH [Democratic Front for Peace and Equality]	4	4	4
Progressive List for Peace	2	2	2

Question: Is it or is it not justified to hold early elections over the dispute over the international conference? (Results in percentages)

Justified	Not Justifies	No Answer
35	64	1

Herut Central Committee Session Postponed

TA240521 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] The Herut Central Committee session has been postponed indefinitely because of the failure of efforts to compose the party executive. Our correspondent Razi Barqay reports that David Levi's supporters claim that they are being discriminated against

in the new executive, headed by Yitzhaq Shamir. The prime minister has consequently decided to postpone the Central Committee session scheduled for mid-July in order to prevent the resurgence of internal arguments.

Sharir Decides To Extradite Naqqash to France

TA221115 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1000 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Excerpt] William Naqqash will be extradited to France. This was decided by Justice Minister Avraham Sharir today. In a statement issued several minutes ago, the Justice Ministry said the minister had considered this issue at length and reached the conclusion that he has no other option. [passage omitted]

Norway To Send Team To Inspect Use of Heavy Water

TA240814 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1100 24 Jun 87

[Text] Norway says it will send a senior official and a nuclear physicist to Israel to renew a request for independent inspection of heavy water which might have been used to make nuclear weapons. Last month, Israel informally indicated that it would not allow the International Atomic Agency to inspect 20 tons of heavy water sold by Norway to Israel in 1960 for peaceful purposes. A Norwegian Foreign Ministry spokesman said the two men would be sent in the next 2 weeks to make an appeal to the Israeli Government. Norwegian Government sources said that if Israel refused the inspection — a condition of the original sale — it would be considered a breach of contract and Norway might attempt to recall the water.

King Husayn Returns Home After Visit to Syria

JN250700 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
0400 GMT 25 Jun 87

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn returned home at midnight last night after a short working visit to Syria during which he held talks with President Hafiz al-Asad on the current situation in the Arab world and the efforts being made to achieve Arab solidarity.

The king was received at Amman airport by Prince Ra'd ibn Zayd, chief chamberlain; Staff Field Marshal Al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Armed Forces; 'Abd al-Wahhab al-Majali, deputy prime minister; the chief of the Royal Household; the secretary general of the Royal Hashemite Court; and a number of senior officials.

Returning with his majesty were Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i; Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court; and 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, court minister.

Upon leaving Damascus, King Husayn was accorded an official sendoff led by President Hafiz al-Asad. The king was also seen off by Vice Presidents 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah; Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm; the deputy prime ministers; the ministers; and 'Ali Khurays, the Jordanian ambassador in Damascus.

Jordan-USSR Society Head Returns From Moscow

JN231614 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic
1451 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Amman, 23 Jun (PETRA) — Bahjat al-Talhuni, chairman of the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society, returned to Amman today following a visit of several days to the Soviet Union. During his stay, he participated in the celebrations held in some Soviet areas to mark Jordanian-Soviet friendship days. He also held talks with a number of Soviet officials on ways to promote the existing friendship between the Jordanian and Soviet peoples. In a statement to a PETRA correspondent, Al-Talhuni said that the Soviet leadership is aware of Jordan's stand on Soviet initiatives calling for achieving peace in the region, as well as stands pertaining to nuclear disarmament and arms reduction.

During celebrations held in Moscow and the Moldavian Soviet Socialist Republic, Al-Talhuni affirmed that Jordan, under the leadership of His Majesty King Husayn, had worked and is still working to achieve a just and lasting peace in the region. He said that Jordan is also making efforts to support the steadfastness of kinfolk in the occupied Arab territories and to achieve Arab solidarity.

A Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium deputy chairman referred to the high level of relations between the two friendly countries. He expressed confidence that holding Jordanian-Soviet friendship days in the Moldavian Republic helps to entrench cooperation between the Soviet Union and Jordan in various fields. A number of senators and representatives received Al-Talhuni upon his return.

Lower House Begins Extraordinary Session

JN240652 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1100 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Amman — The House of Representative held a session this morning under its Speaker 'Akif al-Fayiz. Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i and the ministers were in attendance.

At the beginning of the session, the royal decrees terminating the fourth ordinary session and calling for the current extraordinary session as of 20 June 1987 were read. The prime minister's memo requesting the House of Representatives to elect a new representative for the vacant Bethlehem seat under Article (88) of the Constitution was also read.

The House of Representatives decided to elect the representative for Bethlehem on 7 July 1987. The House also referred several bills to the Financial and Legal Committees.

In the meantime, Muflih al-'Awdatallah, chairman of the House's Agricultural Committee, and several senators and representatives submitted a memo to Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i. The memo urged the government to find a solution to the difficult circumstances of farmers. It contains several demands to help ease the financial burdens of the farmers and to enable them to continue their agricultural activities. The memo also seeks to help them to reschedule their debts and to reduce the cost of production in accordance with the agricultural pattern proposed by the Ministry of Agriculture. The prime minister promised to study the memo and to meet the farmers' demands within the means available.

AL-RA'Y Criticizes U.S. Attitude to Soviet Role

JN241257 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 24 Jun 87 p 1

[Editorial: "Those Qualified To Build Peace"]

[Text] The observer does not need much effort to realize that the U.S. State Department under George Shultz has not achieved any real successes. Moreover, defiance, arrogance, and short-sightedness have governed U.S. conduct up to this moment. The successive blows to President Reagan's administration have permitted the State Department to carry out its policy without heed to the administration, which is busy defending itself against local accusations and international reactions.

Such defiance, arrogance, and short-sightedness have become the distinct stamp of the State Department, beginning with Shultz and ending with his assistants and advisers. The latest examples of this behavior are the statements attributed to a senior official in the State Department which announce that the United States still believes that the USSR is not qualified to be a party to the international conference. We realize that such statements are met with contempt in Moscow and the international community. We know that discussion of such statements is a waste of time. However, we should still examine these statements in order to expose the mentality governing a big power like the United States and the serious consequences of persisting in this thinking.

We must point out that any peace, justice, settlement, security, or stability cannot but contradict all these noble values and principles if they were to come through the U.S. State Department. Peace would merely be a brief truce imposed by force, justice only a dedication of injustice and aggression, and a settlement no more than an attempt to impose a fait accompli of superiority and arrogance. The same applies to security and stability.

We wonder: Washington does not want the Palestinians, the USSR, or China at the international conference. It also does not want Europe to play any role. Furthermore, it does not want any Arab side demanding Israeli withdrawal and the application of UN resolutions 242 and 338. Given these facts, we wonder what will remain of the international conference. Will it be an international conference if it is confined to the Israeli entity and the United States?

There is another basic question: Namely, Washington's ability to see the world beyond its nose, or the Israeli entity's nose. If it manages to do so, it will then be qualified to play a truly positive role toward peace and justice in the region. It will also be able to help bring peace throughout this world, which is stricken by many forms of racism and arrogance.

Al-Jumayyil To Visit Moscow 'Within Days'

NC251021 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0922 GMT 25 Jun 87

[Text] Beirut, 25 Jun (MENA) — The Lebanese newspaper *Al-Bayraq* reports today that Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil will visit Moscow, the Soviet capital, within days in response to an invitation from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

The paper notes that the visit will take place at the urging of the Soviet leaders. It also states that a former Lebanese minister played a part in paving the way for this visit.

The purpose of the visit was not mentioned. However, the paper indicated that Soviet Ambassador in Beirut Kolutusha, immediately upon his return from Moscow, discussed a number of regional and international issues with President al-Jumayyil. In particular, they discussed matters related to the Lebanese crisis and the ending of the many upheavals the country has suffered.

The paper adds that the visit could alter some of the factors affecting the Lebanese arena and crisis, in view of Soviet influence on the stances of some Lebanese parties.

The paper notes that the Lebanese-Soviet talks will be occupied to a large extent with the question of an international conference. Lebanon has adopted a stand on the conference and has informed the United Nations of its position.

Further Reports on Efforts To Release Glass

Driver Tells of Kidnapping

NC242026 Paris AFP in English 2004 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Excerpt] Sidon, Lebanon, June 24 (AFP) — 'Ali 'Usayran, the son of the Lebanese defence minister, was released here by kidnappers Wednesday and his driver who was also seized last week recounted how they and American journalist Charles Glass were intercepted by gunmen.

Mr Glass, 36, was the only one of the trio not to be released Wednesday and Defence Minister 'Adil 'Usayran said the journalist was "still in the hands of his kidnappers."

Meanwhile, the Supreme Islamic Council, the highest body of Lebanon's Shi'ite Community, Wednesday issued a communique after a five hour meeting calling for Mr Glass' release.

At his home village of Al-Qusaybah, south of Beirut, the driver Sulayman Sulayman said he and Mr 'Usayran, 40, were separated from Mr Glass a few hours after the triple abduction.

"After that, I never heard his voice again, and I understood that the kidnappers had taken him out of the room where we were staying, 'Ali and I, until our release," Mr Sulayman said.

The three men were abducted June 17 on a road controlled by the Syrian Army south of Beirut, and were driven towards Beirut's mainly Shi'ite southern suburbs, where many of the foreign hostages abducted in the Lebanese capital are believed held.

Mr Sulayman said he and Mr 'Usayran were never questioned during their one week in captivity. He said the two of them were kept blindfolded in a room where they were merely fed and allowed to go to the toilet.

The driver added that he and Mr 'Usayran were left at the southern entrance to Sidon after being driven tied and blindfolded for more than an hour. [passage omitted]

Syrian Endeavors Continue

NC250455 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 25 Jun 87

[Text] Citing a ranking Syrian official in Damascus, *Reuter* reports that Syria will continue its endeavors to ensure the release of U.S. journalist Charles Glass, who is still being held captive in Lebanon.

Syria 'Insists' on Release

NC250614 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0525 GMT 25 Jun 87

[Text] The Higher Shi'ite Council met yesterday. It maintained that the release of 'Ali 'Usayran and his driver had not resolved the kidnapping of the American journalist. Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an, [chief of Syrian military intelligence in Lebanon] was present for part of the discussions.

The council affirmed that this issue will be settled only when all of the kidnapped individuals are freed. It warned against the recurrence of the recent events in the southern suburb. These events had caused devastating human and material losses.

AFP cited a source close to the Higher Shi'ite Council as saying the Syrian forces command in Lebanon insists that Charles Glass be released soon. The source added that the Syrians have informed the council and the other parties concerned that Syria cannot compare the fate of Glass to that of the other hostages. This incident differs from the others in that it violates the security plan that Syria has implemented since it entered West Beirut last February. Syria, according to the source, maintains that the release of 'Ali 'Usayran and his driver has not closed the file on the issue.

Syrian Surveillance To Increase

NC251121 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 25 Jun 87

[Text] Sources close to the Syrian forces in Lebanon have stated that those forces have been ordered to increase their surveillance on all approaches to the Shi'ite areas and on pro-Iranian groups in south Beirut. This is the area where the 25 foreign hostages are believed to be held.

The sources added that suspect persons are currently being prevented from leaving these areas and from entering West Beirut. This measure is part of Syria's attempt to secure the

release of U.S. journalist Charles Glass, abducted in Lebanon 9 days ago.

'Number' of Western Hostages Moved to Tehran

JN250738 Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU' in Arabic
25 Jun 87 pp 1, 39

[Text] Diplomatic sources have told *Akhbar al-Usbu'* that they firmly believe that a number of Western hostages held by the militias in Lebanon, including Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite, have been moved to Tehran. The sources said that a number of European and U.S. hostages were moved to Tehran. They are being tried there on charges of espionage.

Birri Terms Suburb Fighting 'Irrational Behavior'

NC250640 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0430 GMT 25 Jun 87

[Text] Amal Movement leader Minister Nabih Birri has described the events in the southern suburb 2 days ago as reckless, irresponsible, and irrational behavior. Minister Birri reiterated that those responsible for the events will be dealt with harshly. He accused the plotters and those who bear arms of seeking to wipe out the Amal Movement, which is confronting their designs to effect the partition and disintegration of Lebanon.

Minister Birri maintained that the assassination of Army officers is a serious development in the course of wiping out the nationalist Army. He reiterated that any attack on the nationalist Army will be considered an attack on the Amal Movement.

Junblatt Names Interim PSP Secretary General

NC241743 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1615 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] PSP leader Walid Junblatt has appointed Lieutenant Colonel Sharif Fayyad as the party's interim secretary general. Fayyad replaces Anwar al-Fatayri, whom Junblatt dismissed last Sunday as part of the PSP's recent reorganization efforts. Junblatt, describing the appointment as temporary, said that it was instituted in anticipation of the extraordinary general conference. During this conference, party members are to approve the new appointments and plans for reorganization.

PSP sources have said that Junblatt also decided to dismiss 'Isam al-'Ayn Trazi, alias Abu Sa'id, the former PSP military official in the Beirut area. Junblatt said that his party activities harmed the reputation of the PSP and its allies. These measures have been adopted at the request of the Syrian leadership.

'Umar Karami Interviewed on Political Plans

PM231527 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic
19 Jun 87 pp 16,19

[Interview with 'Umar Karami, brother of late Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami, by Shirbil Zughayb in Tripoli; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] *Al-Hawadith*: You promised to take revenge. But on whom? At whom are you directing such threats?

Karami: We feel the prime minister was martyred for the sake of a great national cause; namely, Lebanon's unity, Arabism, and freedom. Undoubtedly there is a divisionist party in Lebanon working toward partition. We feel Israel and its agents are the prime beneficiaries from the murder of Prime Minister Karami. Therefore we are eager to expedite investigations and identify the criminal who planted the explosives.

As for revenge, I have been stressing that revenge would not be family revenge or revenge by a particular area, but indeed revenge by the homeland and the majority of Lebanese who believe in what Prime Minister Karami believed in. So we are after measures, let them be military or political, that would inflict pain on the quarter that committed this crime. [passage omitted]

Al-Hawadith: Does this mean you are accusing the "Lebanese Forces" of the assassination?

Karami: It is not I alone who accuse them. Indeed, public opinion as a whole accuses them of assassinating Prime Minister Karami because it was they who mobilized public opinion over the 2 or 3 months before the crime was committed. Everyone knows this until proved otherwise.

Al-Hawadith: But it was political mobilization, not incitement to assassinations.

Karami: I would remind you of the banners raised stating: "Death to Rashid Karami." Was this political?

Al-Hawadith: Have there been contacts between you, the president of the Republic, and the Army commander?

Karami: No, there can be no contacts between us before the perpetrator of this crime is identified, especially now that the military committee has submitted its report citing particular people. When they take measures and identify the perpetrators contacts can then be made. But, before then, we cannot make any, since estrangement, on which we insist, still exists.

We are saying today that Rashid Karami's blood is above any other consideration and that there is no room for talks, reconciliation, or existence of the homeland before the criminal is identified. [passage omitted]

Al-Hawadith: Will you visit Damascus in the near future?

Karami: I think so. It is our duty to thank His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad for his noble compassion. This also

would give us the opportunity to hold talks and learn from his nationalist views and ideas, which would inspire us in future political action. [passage omitted]

Al-Hawadith: Will 'Umar Karami join the political front prepared at present in Damascus?

Karami: No contacts have been made with us yet and it is too early to answer such a question.

Al-Hawadith: Is it true you will establish a political party and a military militia for such a party in Tripoli?

Karami: I said right from the beginning that I will follow in the footsteps of Prime Minister Karami. I feel I belong to all people of Tripoli; Tripoli today is one hand, one unit, and one road, the road laid by Rashid Karami. Therefore I shall cooperate with all my brothers, people of Tripoli, to achieve the objectives set by the martyred prime minister.

Al-Hawadith: Some in Tripoli say you will work toward reviving the "Arab Liberation Party."

Karami: Believe me, nothing of this sort has happened so far. Perhaps something like that might take place in the future. But today we are proceeding on the road established by Rashid Karami. The political situation will dictate matters after that.

Al-Hawadith: Will a military militia be established in the future as well?

Karami: I believe that using the military does not solve anything. We have legitimate forces here and our homeland, that is Tripoli, is relaxed; we have no enemies. But we would not object to a militia if it was necessary.

Al-Hawadith: Will you move to Beirut to participate in the contacts and political activities now being carried out by Islamic parties there?

Karami: If it was necessary we would do so, since Beirut is the prime political center and the center of political interaction. We would not hesitate to go to Beirut if we found it necessary. [passage omitted]

Al-Hawadith: What formula for political reform would you accept?

Karami: The correct formula for salvaging Lebanon is one the Lebanese can agree upon and which would satisfy sisterly Syria.

Al-Hawadith: What do you think of relations with Syria?

Karami: We firmly believe sisterly Syria has offered Lebanon every support, backing, and help in order to extricate it from this long crisis. We consider Syria a big nationalist fortress with sublime and sound principles. It works to salvage Lebanon from the shackles of Israel and restore cohesion among the Lebanese. Syria is a close and effective neighbor. It wants nothing but good for Lebanon. For these reasons, we must maintain distinctive relations with it.

Israeli Warplanes Reportedly Raid Al-Biqa' Area

NC241650 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1628 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] *Reuter* has cited eyewitnesses as saying Israeli aircraft bombarded [qadhafa] the Bab al-'Aqabah area in the western Al-Biqa' today. There are no reports yet of any casualties.

According to the eyewitnesses' account, two warplanes launched a raid on the uninhabited mountainous Bab al-'Aqabah area on the western slopes of Mount Hermon. An Israeli drone flew over the area before the raid, the eyewitnesses added.

Security sources said the two planes dropped seven delayed action bombs.

Bab al-'Aqabah is not far from the village of Shab'a, where the Israeli authorities have asked the inhabitants not to venture out of town for security reasons.

Security sources believe the Israeli raid was aimed at preventing guerrillas from infiltrating into the security zone.

Resistance Claims Israeli Casualties in Attacks

NC250652 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0430 GMT 25 Jun 87

[Text] Despite Israel's ongoing acts of terrorism and military buildup in the south, resistance men continued operations against their positions and those of Agent Lahd's mercenaries, including a heroic operation this morning.

The resistance front issued a statement this morning disclosing that one of the anti-armor mines, which a resistance group planted on the road leading to Jabal Basil, exploded as an Israeli troup carrier passed, destroying the carrier and killing or wounding its crew members. In a separate incident, another mine exploded when an Israeli tank arrived in the area to render assistance. The tank was destroyed and, according to eyewitnesses, three Israelis were killed and airlifted by helicopter.

Former Mosques Committee Member Shot in Tripoli

NC241148 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1030 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Gunmen in Tripoli shot and seriously wounded Husayn Darwish, former official of the Mosques and Quarters Committee, in the Al-Tabbanah area today. He was taken to Al-Batrun hospital for treatment.

Kidnapping of Diplomats, Journalists Condemned

JN241400 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: Syria has called on several occasions for making a distinction between a people's struggle for liberation and the condemned acts of terrorism. It has also proposed an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations to define the meaning of terrorism. The conference is intended to draw a clear line between terrorism and peoples' right to struggle with every possible and available means to liberate their occupied territories, regain their usurped rights, and resist aggression.

On several occasions Syria, in the person of President Hafiz al-Asad, has condemned acts of terrorism. This includes the kidnapping of innocent people such as diplomats and journalists. Such acts do not serve a just cause or constitute a useful act of liberation or resistance. We call for making a distinction between terrorism and the struggle for liberation on sound and just bases. We make this call so as remove the thin, deceptive veil which imperialism and Zionism use to conceal their desire to suppress every act of liberation. They also seek to intimidate people so that they will not exercise their legitimate right to self-defense and resistance against occupation, aggression, and injustice. We must, at the same time on the same bases, call loudly for making a distinction between condemned acts of terrorism — such as killing innocent people or kidnapping them and bargaining over their release and committing all types of crimes — and the struggle against occupation, aggression, and the usurpation of peoples' rights.

We must take the weapon of terrorism from the hands of the Israelis and the imperialists in their war against peoples' national liberation movements. Just as we do this, we must also take the slogan of resistance and struggle from those who resort to crime, kidnapping, murder, the taking of hostages, and harming true resistance against the enemies of peoples. Criminal methods and violation of ethics, norms, and chivalry cannot possibly serve a just cause. Nor can they achieve positive results for national liberation struggle. Moreover, these actions do not honor those who fight for freedom and justice and resist the plots of the imperialists and racists. The perpetrators' claim that they have the right to judge people. They say that they can set laws for human societies, enforce their viewpoints on others, and monopolize struggle. But their claims do not change the facts. No matter how firmly these people believe their claims, established facts have proven that their methods have not served any just cause, strengthened resistance, or weakened peoples' enemies. On the contrary, their methods have harmed the struggle against occupation.

Those who want to fight imperialism and Zionism should seek them in their hideouts, not flex their muscles against innocent people who have trusted us and come to live in peace. There are those who work in the darkness against the true interests of the resistance against occupation, Israel, and imperialism. They think that they cannot be tracked down and made accountable for their acts. They are wrong. Their darkness can be penetrated. Their hideouts can be discovered. Their logic can be refuted. They do not enjoy the support of all strugglers, resisters, and those who uphold the ethics of struggle and martyrdom.

These people are criminals who are doing harm. They are tampering with the sacred resistance cause. They are trying to spread rejected and condemned methods and chaos and anarchy in areas where security, stability, and peace have been restored. The time has come for all the forces engaged in the true battle against Zionism and imperialism and their crimes to stand up to these criminals. The hand of right and justice is stronger than the hand of crime.

Further Reports on Visit by Jordan's King Husayn

Second Meeting With Al-Asad

JN241839 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Excerpt] President Hafiz al-Asad and King Husayn resumed their talks in a second closed meeting held at the presidential palace at 1845 today. The talks dealt with the general situation and the latest developments in the Middle East. They also discussed current Arab relations and the efforts being exerted to improve the situation in the Arab world. Issues of concern to the Syrian and Jordanian sides and relations between the two fraternal countries were reviewed.

His Majesty King Husayn earlier had lunch with President Hafiz al-Asad. The accompanying Jordanian delegation, the Jordanian ambassador in Damascus, Vice Presidents 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' also attended the lunch. [Passage omitted]

Al-Kasm Receives Al-Rifa'i

JN241905 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm received Jordan's Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i at 1830 today. Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, and 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, court minister, attended the meeting. They discussed Arab positions and the current situation in the region. They also reviewed various bilateral issues dealing with developing cooperation between the two fraternal countries.

King Husayn Leaves 24 Jun

JN250522 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 25 Jun 87

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan left Damascus last night following a brief visit to Syria. President Hafiz al-Asad headed those who saw him off at the airport. He was also seen off by Vice Presidents 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, the ministers, and the Jordanian ambassador in Damascus.

Further Reportage on Visit by CSSR's Chnoupek

Al-Shar', Chnoupek Speak

JN240716 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Damascus — Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' held a dinner tonight in honor of CSSR Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek. Ministers and members of the delegations of the two countries attended.

Faruq al-Shar' delivered a speech during the dinner. He reaffirmed the belief of our country, under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad, that the road to a just and lasting peace in our area is through an international conference sponsored by the United Nations in which all the concerned parties would take part. He asserted that the statements by Washington and Tel Aviv on the concept of the conference are merely an attempt to impose the Camp David policy.

Al-Shar' emphasized that we in Syria will continue to struggle for a genuine and just peace that restores the usurped rights and the occupied territory and safeguards the Arab nation's dignity. The foreign minister asserted that the racism of the Zionist entity in our area, like the racism of the Pretoria regime, goes against the flow of the current followed by the peoples of the world. Al-Shar' said that the patriots in southern Lebanon, the Golan Heights, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip are valiantly resisting the forces of occupation. He denounced the attempts by Israel and its allies to brand these people with the stigma of terrorism

Al-Shar' reaffirmed Syria's firm condemnation of terrorism in all its forms. He stressed: We condemn state terrorism and we reject their attempts to terrorize us. We emphasize the need to define terrorism and to distinguish between it and the legitimate struggle of peoples.

Faruq al-Shar' emphasized the need for Arab solidarity in the face of imperialist and Zionist schemes. He stressed that Syria under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad will not spare any effort to redress the Arab situation. Al-Shar' said that Syria will make every possible contribution alongside the brothers and friends to end the dilemma facing the Arab nation as a result of the separate peace with Israel and the Iraq-Iran war.

Al-Shar' referred to Syria's sacrifices to preserve Lebanon's unity and Arabism. He asserted that the plot now aimed against Lebanon will inevitably fail. He declared that Syria will not forfeit its national responsibilities to its brothers in Lebanon, whatever the sacrifices and difficulties.

The foreign minister also addressed the issue of disarmament. He said that the adoption of tangible measures, the easing of international tension, and the achievement of agreements on dismantling medium-range missiles in Europe constitute important steps toward bringing about international detente. They also contribute to the establishment of a comprehensive order for international peace and security. Al-Shar' expressed Syria's appreciation for the peace initiatives of the Soviet Union and the socialist countries. He said that Syria supports their efforts to achieve the aims to which all the peoples of the world aspire.

The foreign minister concluded his speech by affirming that Comrade Chnoupek's visit to Syria will contribute to further strengthening relations between the two countries in various fields.

CSSR Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek, also spoke during the dinner. He affirmed his country's support for Syria's struggle against imperialism, Zionism, and racism. Chnoupek asserted that Syria today is a modern and strong state and is developing successfully. The CSSR foreign minister said: We are working together in the spirit of the friendship and cooperation treaty, which we translate into reality. He noted that relations between the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party are developing steadily.

CSSR Foreign Minister Chnoupek said that the Middle East is still one the most dangerous hotbeds of tension. For the past 4 decades, there has been great suffering here as a result of Israel's policy which is fully supported by the United States.

The CSSR minister emphasized his country's support for the Arab people's struggle to regain occupied Arab territory and to achieve a just solution to the Palestinian cause. Chnoupek affirmed his country's support for an international conference on the Middle East. He expressed Czechoslovakia's great appreciation for the steps taken by the Syrian leaders to bring about a unified Arab stand. He declared: Syria can play a positive role in that regard, thanks to President Al-Asad's great international prestige and to Syria's firm stand on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Mashariqah Receives Vacik

JN241508 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Damascus, 24 Jun (SANA) — Vice President Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah received Miloslav Vacik, deputy chairman of the Czechoslovak National Front and chairman of the Solidarity Committee, this afternoon. Talks revolved around the current political situation in the Arab region, international developments, and relations between the two friendly countries in various fields.

During the meeting the two sides stressed the need to further develop relations between the Syrian Progressive National Front and the Czechoslovak National Front in the interest of the two friendly peoples. Vacik expressed his great appreciation for Syria's role in the region and its courageous confrontation of imperialist and Zionist schemes.

Foreign Ministers Resume Talks

JN241625 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] The official Syrian-CSSR talks led by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and CSSR Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek resumed today. Talks revolved around the situation in the Middle East. Both sides supported holding a genuine and effective international peace conference as a way to achieve just and comprehensive peace in the region.

On fraternal Lebanon, the CSSR foreign minister expressed his country's support for the efforts Syria is exerting to achieve Lebanese national reconciliation. He also expressed his country's absolute conviction in the important and vital role Syria is playing under the leadership of Comrade Struggler Hafiz al-Asad in the region in particular and in the international scene in general.

The two sides reviewed various aspects of the international sitaution. They lauded bilateral relations and stressed the importance of the cooperation existing between them in various fields. They emphasized their determination to continue coordination and cooperation in various fields to serve the peoples of both friendly countries.

Najibullah Addresses Nonaligned Journalists
LD240904 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0536 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Kabul, June 23, *Bakhtar* — General secretary of the Central Committee of the PDPA Najib in his speech at the opening session of the conference of journalists of non-aligned countries said in part. We are thankful to all the governments which have sent you, the messengers of peace to us. We are grateful to the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Committee, International Organisation of Journalists, UNESCO, and the UN organisation for their support to our policy on reconciliation and convening of this conference which is an evidence of their high tribute to human civilisation in our country.

Pursuing the indefatigable efforts for peace, direct participation in the struggle for the survival of humankind, for the ideals of truth and reality, you have gathered in one of the tense cities of the world, that is, Kabul city. Thank you for your goodwill.

Today, at the beginning of these deliberations, every one of us lives with feelings full of concern for our people, for the destiny of the peoples of our beautiful planet and for the future of all human beings.

You can see for yourself still how many misunderstandings, big and small, vain clashes, intrigues and disputes exist in our planet for exploitation by mischievous elements and imperialist forces. This conference is ten times stronger than their evil intentions and mischief.

I would like to share with you my views on some aspects of life today in my country — my proud people and their courage in tackling international and domestic problems. But the first and the foremost on the agenda and position of mass media is the successful tackling of regional and global problems.

The urgency of increasing the effectiveness of information machinery as a whole and propaganda in particular, are determined by the fact that in our time the role of ideological truths has been seen as an acceleration of the processes of social progress.

Peace, in its various forms and socio-political complexities, is, to a great extent, the determiner of today's mass media. It is not accidental that Pentagon, the White House and the Western policy makers who spend astronomical sums of money on escalating psychological war and consolidating their ideological influence over the people, disagree with this policy of peace.

The tasks and obligations of the mass media have noticeably expanded in our world today, particularly, the responsibility, mobilising and organising role of mass media, which equip themselves with the ideals of peace and friendship between the peoples and fight against the ever increasing arms race for delivering humanity from colonial servitude and chauvinism, have assumed new proportions.

The most massive international movement fighting for peace, co-existence and different systems and peaceful competition of the entire world is the Non-Aligned Movement. The Non-Aligned Movement has been converted into one of the determining forces of the present time. Comrade Najib, speaking on historical background of the movement, stressed the decisive role of the Warsaw Treaty in maintaining balance against the aggressive bloc of NATO. Warsaw Treaty exerts all efforts for a peaceful solution of disputes and differences, he pointed out.

The principle of non-alignment, to some extent, means neutrality. But this concept has got different meanings. As is widely known, the word 'neutrality' is derived from a Latin word. One could be neutral on account of one's own free-will, or, on the basis of a non-aligned treaty. Neutrality can be general or regional. Neutrality can be full and partial and finally, neutrality can exist on the basis of commonly shared non-aligned ideas. That is why, about half of the world's population boldly protects and espouses this movement today.

It is because of this that the world imperialism is afraid of the strengthening of the ranks of Non-Aligned Movement. Therefore, we, the militant peoples of Asian, African and Latin American countries, deeply respect these principles and fight with all force at our command for their realisation.

The Non-Aligned Movement introduced to the world public great personalities genuinely interested in the cause of peace. I would like to recall, first of all, India.

The Non-Aligned Movement would have been poorer without Cuba and her heroic leader, Fidel Castro. The achievements of the movement doubtlessly relate to the fact that it has always been led by the real geniuses of progress and love for mankind. A grateful humanity will never forget them and their sincere efforts.

Notwithstanding the conspiracies of hostile forces who strive, at any cost, to isolate our country from the Non-Aligned Movement, Afghanistan has been, and will always be, loyal to the principles of "panshila" [five principles governing international relations].

Suffice it to recall that we are one of the founders, organisers and active participants of this movement since the 1955 Bandung conference, which even today has its own international significance.

The spirit of the conference of non-aligned countries, which was a manifestation of the ideas of peaceful co-existance and firm solidarity of Africa and Asia in their struggle against colonialism, imperialism and racial discrimination has remained as the basic motive force of the foreign policy of the DRA.

I want to point out that our party and state have proclaimed from this very platform that Afghanistan pursues an independent peaceful policy of non-alignment. In addition to peaceful co-existence and internationalistic solidarity, these basic principles constitute the groundwork of all activities of the DRA.

We express our regret over a temporary pause of Afghanistan's active participation in the activities of organisation of the Islamic conference. No reason exists for this. Our country -- an Islamic state -- has, time and again, proved its loyalty to the sacred

religion of Islam. Any propaganda against it is based on opportunist motives and is in contrast with high objectives which the organisation has been established for.

The scope of the Non-Aligned Movement has visibly expanded. At present, 51 African, 29 Asian, 17 Latin American, three European and one Central American country are members of this movement.

The role of the movement against aggressive and militant forces has increased with each passing year.

The joint action of over a hundred member-countries of the Non-Aligned Movement is of exceptional significance in the programme of nuclear disarmament of the Soviet Union. These countries condemn the efforts of the United States of America in shirking under different pretexts, from assessing the peaceable initiatives of the Soviet Union. The deep concern expressed by non-aligned countries over the destiny of the globe was demonstrated in this fact that they, for the first time after the Belgrade conference, deemed it necessary to send simultaneously two messages addressed to the leaders of two great powers, that is, Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and Ronald Reagan, President of the United States of America. It was stated in the message that humankind has never been so close to suicide as it is now.

Today there exists the choice not only between war and peace, but between life and death. This places the question of the struggle for peace and prevention of nuclear war as the basic task of our times.

Since you are the torch-bearers of peace and solidarity, I want that the mass media should contribute to the growth of this movement. Because it is not a secret that the Non-Aligned Movement also has its own problems due to the diversity of its composition and the permanent subversive activities of imperialism, one of the main problems is to ensure the unity and monolithic structure of these non-aligned countries.

We are thankful for the Soviet Union as the only country among the super powers which has made an international commitment to respect the non-aligned policy. This was categorically stated in the statements of member-states of the Warsaw Pact in the agreements on friendship and cooperation with India, Ethiopia, Afghanistan and in other official documents. The Delhi Declaration has close link with the fundamental principles of the Non-Aligned Movement and its very philosophy. The importance of this document is latent in its global nature and in the fact that it calls not only for reason, also for human feelings and morality. Such a support gives us courage and creates bright prospects for the growth of our movement.

Since the inception of the Non-Aligned Movement, Afghanistan has accomplished a great deal in freeing itself from the yoke of oppression of imperialist forces. It has been for the last 22 years that the PDPA has been leading the people's struggle for national sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country.

Based on the will of the people, the leadership of Afghanistan proclaimed the programme of national peace and unilateral ceasefire, and invited all opponents of our policy to sit for a dialogue. This measure does not signify our weakness. On the contrary, at present we have the required forces that are sufficient for defending the gains of the April Revolution. However, we need not war, but peace, not destruction, but creativity. Now our country is at a crucial stage, and it can be said, at a turning point. The policy of national reconciliation is the only rational alternative to bloodshed and fratricidal war that is carried out by counter-revolutionary forces with the vast support of world imperialism and the reaction of the region against the DRA. This policy is winning, with each passing day, further support and approval of all strata of the Afghan society and our countrymen living abroad. The policy of national reconciliation has been changed from a slogan into a reality.

I would like to state some facts. Up to now, over 60,000 emigrants have returned home. Over 25,000 armed men have joined the people's power. Over 100 groups, comprising tens of thousands of members, have begun negotiations with our state organs. Over 6,000 prisoners have been set free. One thousand and one hundred villages have peacefully joined the people's power.

Fourteen districts and four provinces are led by the former members of the opposition armed bands, who have pledged to implement the laws of people's power. There exist, among the members of commissions for national reconciliation, over 4,000 representatives of the other side. Five ministers who had served in the past regimes, are members of the present Council of Ministers. Reconciliation means the peaceable activity of people themselves.

This process would gradually develop in depth and scope in the days to come. One must not hasten this process. The fruit of the reconciliation cannot be picked from the peace tree when it is not yet ripe.

Visiting the provinces, factories, plants and lycees, you would believe in the problems that we face. I don't want you to think that I am persuading you. But I can say firmly that the process of reconciliation is becoming an irreversible one now.

We sincerely take interest in the immediate establishment of peace and tranquility in our ancient land [words indistinct] for achieving this noble aim, we would like to go forward to the extent of creating a coalition government in which the influential opposition political forces, who are concerned over the destiny of Afghanistan, may join.

The policy of national reconciliation inside Afghanistan has unbreakable links with the immediate settlement of issues around Afghanistan. I have noted this point here because, of late, abusing our peaceful policy, specific circles of reaction have become infinitely more active and shameless. They encourage armed groups to engage in clashes with the frontier guards of the Soviet Union, though they realise well the futility of all this. There is an adage that says: "The poor ass wanted to have a long tail, but lost ears."

The Soviet Union was, is and will remain to be, the kindest friend and neighbour of the Afghan people. These are mere words but a reality that has been proved in the course of history. Let all know that no plot and effort can damage our friendship. We have inherited this friendship from our predecessors, ancestors and fathers who during three wars with Britons, understood the value of this friendship.

Imperialist propaganda makes all efforts to distort the revolutionary changes taking place in Afghanistan and throw into the abyss of oblivion irrespective of the fact that all this is being accomplished with the will of the Afghan people. Such an approach is not new for us. I wish to draw your attention to another issue. It concerns both the contemporary propaganda and the Non-Aligned Movement. In recent years, the terminology "imperialistic information" is occasionally seen in the documents of the Non-Aligned Movement. This is a testimony to a particular form of struggle of world imperialism against the revolutionary and progressive forces of the times, the world system of socialism and national liberation movements of people. The main jurisdiction for imposing "information imperialism" is the newly-freed Asian, African and Latin American countries. Absence of advanced information services in these countries, poor technical means and mostly the complete dependence of these countries on news agency, TV and cinema products of the West, provide the possiblity for the imperialist forces to carry the vast ideological expansionism vis-a-vis newly-freed countries and intensify the propaganda of the American way of life.

There lie before the journalists of non-aligned countries important questions of connection with emancipation from the yoke of "information imperialism" and creation of a new information order.

A major part of the mass media of the West is under the control of intelligence organizations and is being actively utilized for the ideological offensive of world imperialism against the developing countries.

The CIA of the United States control 1,200 mass media units in the United States itself and beyond its borders. Two hundred dailies, 30 news agencies and 20 radio stations, that function in all parts of the world, disseminate in 20 languages, every day the information that is put at their disposal by the CIA. Pentagon has also not lagged behind in these activities. The programmes prepared by this military department are disseminated by 250 radio stations and four TV stations.

The Non-Aligned Movement had felt much earlier the serious danger of information imperialism and the intensification of imperialist propaganda and information, and has organized a planned struggle against this calamity. The struggle is growing in two directions: First the idea of a "new information order" of the world has been outlined and is being developed. Second, information organs and regional and international unions of developing countries, including the news agencies of non-aligned countries, are being formed.

In our view, a new world information order is the major part of the general process of decolonisation that would not come to an end with political and economic freedom, because the third factor, i.e., spiritual dependence, that is exceptionally important, would continue to exist. Thus, a new world information order sets forth the proposal of decolonisation in the sphere of exchange of information, establishment of cultural sovereignty and spiritual freedom, because without these complete independence is impossible.

Among the first participants of our proud movement, Afghanistan has taken part in all the measures launched by the movement. We regularly exchange information with most Asian, African, Latin American and other countries. We are thankful, particularly, to the information services of the Soviet Union because they help us in receiving information about all important fields of the life of different countries.

We expect to give a fresh impetus to our information services. *Bakhtar Information Agency*, our radio and TV are improving their work in making our people aware of major world events. It is for two years now that the faculty of journalism has been functioning in the Kabul University. At present, around 400 students are studying in this faculty. Courses of the Institute of Social Sciences and seminars of the Union of Journalists of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan are held regularly. The Union of Journalists of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, along with the scholars of Kabul University, is printing right now a book on the theory and practice of contemporary journalism, [word indistinct] of publicists, present-day problems, policy and culture.

It is a matter of pleasure to note that our contemporary press has gained for itself only the progressive foundations of our traditional journalism that has always served the aspirations of mankind. At present 28 magazines and 43 dailies are published in the cities and provinces of the country. The daily broadcasting programme of Radio Afghanistan is 53 hours and that of TV around 10 hours.

Under the undeclared war that has been continuing for nine years, our enemies have killed thousands of our countrymen, set fire to or destroyed 25 mosques, 183 schools, 144 hospitals and health centres, but could not frighten us.

Enemy radios devote almost one hour every day to broadcasts against every minute programme of Radio Afghanistan. It can be said that our enemies devote a great attention to this effort. This psychological radio war is conducted from abroad openly, shamelessly and ever more intensively. Tens of thousands of copies of hostile propaganda materials, ranging from posters, manuscripts to anti-state leaflets, bulletins, magazines and books, printed in most up-to-date printing houses, are sent and distributed all over. Under such circumstances, international and regional journalism can accomplish useful work for the people of Afghanistan and their friends.

Last year, three groups of foreign journalists, comprising a total of over 200 journalists, visited our country. Correspondents of the mass media of socialist countries, news agencies of the Non-Aligned Movement member-countries, individual journalists from India, Federal Republic of Germany, Britain, France, Pakistan and African countries visited different provinces, and

reflected in their works the heroic work and struggle of the Afghan people for rebuilding their life and national sovereignty.

We are thankful to all honest journalists who have used their pens in reflecting the revolutionary realities. In particular, I want to emphasise the role of mass media in publicising the ideals of national reconciliation. It is not a secret for any one that the ruling organs in Iran, Pakistan, the USA, Federal Republic of Germany, Britain and some other countries conceal and camouflage the ideals of national reconciliation from the Afghan emigrants and make all efforts to prevent their awareness of the measures of the Government of Afghanistan aimed at establishing peace and security in our republic, the new economic measures of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan on the guarantee of the preservation of the property of the repatriates, release of prisoners, etc.

Distinguished journalists, your true words would make a particular contribution to the solution of our numerous pressing problems.

Fortunately, there also exists in the world half of the other humankind, i.e., the half that is provident, honest, wise and experienced. You, dear guests, are the representatives of this half.

I believe that, if we unitedly and single-mindedly struggle for peace and progress and reveal to our peoples the realities of life, the base of the supporters of world conflicts would proportionately weaken.

Keshtmand Addresses Journalists

LD240911 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0442 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Kabul, June 23, *Bakhtar* — There is a saying in the East: "If mountains are far apart, clouds bring them together. If human beings are distant from one another, their good deeds bring them closer together."

This was said by Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, Politburo member of the PDPA CC and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA, opening the international conference of journalists of the non-aligned countries inaugurated here today.

Our noble objectives and deeds, efforts to establish a world void of nuclear weapons, to support national liberation movements of the peoples in their struggle against world imperialism, neocolonialism, racial discrimination, for the establishment of a new just international economic and information order and overcoming poverty and backwardness have brought together journalists of non-aligned countries here in Kabul.

The question of safeguarding peace has become a question of life, a question to be or not to be. This has always been the most important issue and the most important precondition for the development of the newly independent countries and for ensuring their further growth to high civilization. We, the representatives of the developing countries, have chosen our strategy, i.e., the non-aligned policy to resolve the problems of our progressive development. We are of the conviction that dependence on military blocs and putting one's territory at the disposal of foreign military bases pose a serious danger to the freedom and independence of these nations which they gained through a hard struggle.

As one of the founders of the Non-Aligned Movement, Afghanistan from the very beginning of that movement has unswervingly pursued this rational and foresighted policy.

Non-aligned and developing countries are following the ideas of establishing peace and security in the world, maintaining cooperation among peoples and non-use of force. This is deeply a logical policy and stems from all aspects of our life, from our historic traditions and our present problems. It cannot be but a source of great concern for us that while a large number of peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America are suffering from poverty, hunger and diseases, large sums of financial resources are wasted in the senseless arms race. That is why we sincerely welcome the efforts of all figures and countries of goodwill, above all, of the Soviet Union which are aimed at find a way out of the dangerous deadlock of disarmament.

The dangers facing peace today cannot be but a source of concern. The situation in some regions of the world can pose serious danger to security and stability. In some of these regions, the situation stems from their colonial past and the remaining national strife is its residue. Instability in these regions are the result of the interference of the imperialist forces which are trying to prolong their existence and get a hold of the foreign resources. To achieve this end, they instigate armed conflicts and provocations. It is an extension of this policy that Afghanistan has also been subjected to the undeclared war of world imperialism and reaction. It is eight years now that as a result of imperialist aggression and interference the bloodshed is going on in our country, devastations are continued and lands of the peasants are set on fire.

Instead of spending our resources only for development and progress, we have to allocate large amount of our resources for the revival of damaged economy and our defence. We are heartfully grateful to our true friend, the Soviet Union, which helps us in this effort.

It is really not hard to realize the fact and many participants in this conference are witness to it that all this explosive situation is the outcome of the neo-globalist policy pursued by the United States of America and her imperialist allies.

This matter was once again emphasised in the Harare conference and the recently held Pyongyang conference of the non-aligned countries wherein the delegation of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan took an active part.

Today, when you the representatives of the progressive information organs of the developing countries have gathered here in Kabul, I would like to stress that we consider this meeting as a natural growth and continuation of the initiatives and decisions taken in Harare in 1986.

S.A. Keshtmand said that it is the duty of progressive journalists to all-sidedly consolidate the unity of their ranks.

Keshtmand Addresses Border Force Party Activists
LD242146 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Excerpt] Comrade Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, took part in a session of the party activists of the Border Force General Command held today in the conference hall of the Defense Ministry to approve and express support for the decisions and resolutions of the recent PDPA Central Committee plenum.

Bakhtar reports that Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand spoke in detail about the national reconciliation policy and about the decisions and resolutions of the PDPA Central Committee plenum. He exposed the present shortcomings and defects in the work and activities of commanders, political workers, and party committees and drew the attention of those attending to their duties to enhance the combat capability of border units; raise the level of combat education, training, and political awareness; and pay attention to the living conditions of soldiers.

He stated: The personnel of the units and companies of the border force, besides protecting the borders, must accelerate their work among the tribes and border inhabitants and encourage them to cooperate in defending the borders and implementing the national reconciliation policy.

The chairman of the Council of Ministers added: I am not referring to totally sealing the borders. The borders are closed to fighters. As for the inhabitants of [word indistinct], for traders, for convoys carrying foodstuffs and industrial commodities, and for the Kochi tribes, the roads will always be open. The consolidation of the borders in no way runs against the traditional relations between tribes residing in the DRA and those on the other side of Durand line. [passage omitted]

AFP: Chinese Technicians From Nepal Released

BK250724 Hong Kong AFP in English
0717 GMT 25 Jun 87

[Text] Kathmandu, June 25 (AFP)— Indian police have released two Chinese technicians arrested 12 days ago for allegedly spying near the Indio-Nepalese border, a Nepalese Foreign Ministry official said here Thursday. The two Chinese were brought to Birgunj township, about 180 kilometres south of here, and handed over to the local deputy superintendent of police late Wednesday, the official told *Agence France-Presse*. Both have resumed working at the Marsyangdi hydropower plant, a World Bank project about 80 kilometers west of here, the official added.

Indian police arrested Sun Zhiyuan, 40, and Huang Changqing, 39, both from Sichuan Province in central China, along with their Nepalese driver Krishna Bhakta Tapanbasu, at Raxaul, across the border from Birgunj, on June 13. They were detained at Motihari jail and later shifted to Bettiah jail near the regional capital of Bihar, an official source sid.

The Chinese Embassy here maintained throughout the affair that the two technicians went to Birgunj to buy spare parts for project vehicles after which they then spent a few hours sightseeing near the Indian border. They were carrying cameras and apparently took a few shots of a gate on the border.

Chinese officials issued a statement in Beijing last week demanding the release of the technicians, and the Chinese and Indian embassies in Kathmandu have since been negotiating to secure their release on humanitarian grounds.

Technicians from China have worked on various projects in Nepal's low land tropical region along the 1,040 kilometre border with India for several years but this was the first such incident, one source said.

Nepalese political observers said India's gesture of releasing the technicians would help to strengthen the Sino-Indian ties.

Police Arrest 100 in Raids Near Golden Temple

BK250427 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 25 Jun 87

[Text] In Punjab, police and paramilitary forces carried out a search of some buildings adjacent to the Golden Temple in Amritsar this morning. A 2-hour curfew was clamped from 0430 around the Golden Temple complex for the purpose. About 100 youths have been rounded up and arms and ammunition found.

According to the state police chief, Mr J.F. Ribeiro, the arrested youths are being screened and those who are not involved in terrorist crimes will be let off by 1100 today. Mr Ribeiro said the search was made following information that a large number of terrorists had assembled in the area.

The police and paramilitary forces have strengthened their pickets and have intensified patrolling. Mr Ribeiro said this is being done in view of the call given by the Gurjeet Singh faction of the All India Sikh Student Federation for a convention in the complex tomorrow. He said the convention will promote antinational activities.

Police Maintain 'Strict Vigil'

BK250854 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 25 Jun 87

[Text] In Punjab, the police and paramilitary forces today carried out a search of some buildings adjacent to the Golden Temple in Amritsar. About 90 persons were rounded up. Eighty of them were released later after verification. An official spokesman said besides some arms and ammunition, a large number of incriminating documents were also recovered. He said the police and paramilitary forces are maintaining a strict vigil.

Violence Continues in Gurkha-Sponsored Strike

Antiterrorist Act Invoked

BK241301 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] The West Bengal government has invoked the provisions of the Antiterrorist Act in Darjeeling District and Duars area to control the unabated violence during the GNLF [Gurkha National Liberation Front] sponsored 13-day bundh [strike].

The deputy inspector general [of police], Darjeeling range, Mr R.K. Handa, said the district administration is enforcing the provisions of the act. Three additional companies of the Central Police Reserve Force have been deployed in the Darjeeling area and one in Kalimpong. Two companies have been sent to Kurseong. The bundh, which entered its 5th day today, continues to affect life in the hill areas with shops and business establishments remaining closed and traffic off the road.

Reports of more violent incidents have been received from different areas today. Mr Handa told our Kurseong correspondent that GNLF activists set on fire the Gramin Bank and two vehicles of the Agricultural Department at Kalimpong, gutting them completely. An attempt was also made to set on fire B.T. College in the town, but timely intervention by the police has foiled the attempt.

Buta Singh, Gurkha Leader Meet

BK241619 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Excerpts] The West Bengal government has invoked the provisions of the Terrorists and Disruptive Activities Prevention Ordinance in Darjeeling District and Duars area to control the unabated violence triggered by the GNLF [Gurkha National Liberation Front] sponsored 13-day bundh [strike]. [passage omitted]

An unsuccessful attempt was made to damage the water reservoir at Kalimpong municipality. One BSF [Border Security Force] establishment in Kalimpong subdivision was attacked with bombs, but no one was injured. The Darjeeling District mag-

istrate told our Siliguri correspondent that about 30 persons have been arrested so far and government property worth about 7 crore rupees damaged.

The home minister, Mr Buta Singh, has urged the GNLF to withdraw its 13-day bundh. At a meeting with the GNLF leader, Mr Subash Ghisingh, in New Delhi today, he said the bundh has led to widespread violence and arson. The home minister made it clear that violence must be stopped forthwith and efforts be made to find a peaceful solution to the GNLF agitation. Mr Ghisingh explained that his organization had been forced to call the bundh as a protest against what he termed as increasing police atrocities and raids. The home minister spoke to the West Bengal chief minister, Mr Jyoti Basu, over telephone. Mr Basu is coming to Delhi tomorrow for talks. An official release says that the talks with Mr Subash Ghisingh will also continue.

A Congress-I delegation from West Bengal called on the home minister, Mr Buta Singh, in New Delhi today to express concern over the situation in Darjeeling. The delegation led by the Pradesh [State] Congress Committee president, Mr P.R. Dasmunsi, complained of harassment of innocent people by the administrative machinery in the state. They said it is a primary responsibility of the state government to bring the situation under control and the chief minister should call an all-party meeting for this purpose.

Gurkha 'Activists' Arrested

BK250355 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 25 Jun 87

[Text] In Darjeeling, the entire forest department complex at Rindix at the Borobazaar Thana area was burned down by GNLF [Gurkha National Liberation Front] activists last night. The complex includes a rest house, office, and staff quarters. A senior district official told the All India Radio Siliguri correspondent that property worth 2 lakh rupees was destroyed. There was, however, no casualty.

He said the drive against the GNLF activists has been stepped up following enforcement of the anti-terrorist laws in the district. A UNI report says that more than 100 GNLF activists have been arrested during the past 3 days.

'Large-Scale' Maneuvers Begin in Gulf, Hormuz

LD241906 Tehran IRNA in English 1835 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June 24, IRNA — Iran conducted large-scale maneuvers in Oman Sea, Strait of Hormuz and middle part of the Persian Gulf Tuesday. According to an informed military source here today, the objective of the eight-day maneuvers code named "Zulfiqar" is to test the combat readiness of Iranian naval units against potential threats. Zulfiqar was a double-bladed sword used by Imam 'Ali (A.S.).

The source said that heavy destroyers, frigates, logistical warships, missile launchers, helicopters and amphibious units of naval forces together with Air Force fighter bombers are participating in the maneuvers.

IRGC Head visits Abu Musa, Strait of Hormuz

LD242024 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Mr Mohsen Rezai'e, commander in chief of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC], visited Abi Musa Island and the strategic Strait of Hormuz today. He was accompanied by a number of commanders from the IRGC's three forces. His goal was to assess the defensive and combat readiness of the combatants of Islam in the region.

According to an IRNA report, the logistics commander in the Construction Jihad and the commander of the IRGC First Sea Zone were also present. After arriving, the visitors assessed the combat strength of the forces of Islam on Abu Musa Island.

Threatens U.S. Ships

LD251151 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 25 Jun 87

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that Mohsen Rezai'e, commander in chief of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, who is in the Persian Gulf and Strait of Hormuz region to inspect the combat defense activity of the combatants of Islam, addressed a group of commanders and officials of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps at one of the Corps' command bases. He said: Should the enemy bring all its forces into the Persian Gulf, we possess enough forces seeking martyrdom who are capable of striking blows at its modern equipment and capturing a number of U.S. naval craft as war booty.

He added: With the dispatch of five important detachments of Mobilization Forces under the titles "Defenders of the Persian Gulf," "Epic-Makers of 'Ashura," "Wayfarers of Karbala'," "Muhammad's Army," and "Troops of Sahib al-Zaman," as well as the second dispatch of the 20-million strong Army and the joint operations of the forces of Islam and the struggling Iraqi Kurds, this year will mark a high point for the combatants of Islam in determining the future of Iraq.

Describing the crushing operations of the forces of Islam against the Ba'thist aggressors last year, the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps commander said: During the past year the fighters of Islam attacked the Iraqi war machine. In addition to inflicting heavy losses on equipment, a substantial number of the Iraqi ruling regime's forces were killed or wounded, and nearly 9,000 of them were taken prisoner by the forces of Islam.

In addition, regions like (?Faw), Shalamcheh, Mehran, and the northwestern highlands were also liberated by the forces of Islam.

On the strength of these victories, our fighters have now decided not to wait for the superpowers [as heard]. By entering the crucial stage in the history of the war, they have decided to determine Iran's future on the battlefields.

In conclusion, the commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps gave a brief interview to a correspondent of the Central News Unit. Regarding the readiness and combat capability of the Navy of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, he said: The Navy of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps is in a state of full combat defensive readiness to confront the enemies of Islam.

By employing missile and naval craft resources and by implementing defensive operations, even if the enemy were able to secretly escape from us, we would still be able to track them down in the Persian Gulf and attack.

'Defenders' Arrive on Abu Musa

NC21001 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 25 Jun 87

[Correspondent's dispatch on the arrival of the first group of the "Defenders of the Persian Gulf" on Abu Musa Island — date not given]

[Text] The first group of the large deployment of the "Defenders of the Persian Gulf" [Hafezan-e Khalij-e Fars] has arrived on Abu Musa Island.

Upon the arrival of these noble ones, Mr Mohsen Rezai'e, commander in chief of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC], accompanied by the chief of staff and the commanders of the IRGC's three forces, as well the commander of the IRGC First Sea Zone, inspected the combat units deployed in the area. He met the Mobilization brothers dispatched to the area and praised their self-sacrificing and resistant spirit. He stressed the importance of the popular forces' continual presence in the Persian Gulf, the Gulf of Oman, and the Strait of Hormuz, as well asthe need for the fighters to maintain vigilance in the present situation.

The IRGC commander in chief then visited the fortifications and military installations on Abu Musa Island and affirmed his complete satisfaction with the efforts and preparations of the brothers stationed there.

He also expressed the hope that all the plots of the superpowers and the criminal agents will be neutralized one after another as a result of the effective presence of these brothers, and that the Islamic Republic of Iran's role as the true (?guardian) of peace

and tranquillity in the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz will be performed laudably.

IRGC 'Invites' Forces To Register for Defense

LD250915 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 25 Jun 87

[Text] A statement by the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] of Damavand base invites all redispatch, support, trained, and specialized forces to report to the centers of the IRGC's mobilization forces in order to register as defenders of the Persian Gulf units before 28 June 1987.

SAIRI Announces Mobilization of Forces to Gulf

LD251301 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 25 Jun 87

[Text] The military unit of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI) has announced: Following previous statements and declarations of preparedness by Muslim Iraqi mujahidin, the military forces of SAIRI, together with the rest of the defenders of the Persian Gulf, will depart for that region on Friday, 3 July. All mujahidin Iraqi brothers and refugees can present themselves, before the said date, to the mobilization offices of the SAIRI throughout the country and register their names.

Also, in order to offer decisive support to the revolutionary movement of the Muslim people of Kuwait and to express disgust and annoyance with the security mercenaries' silencing of the justice-seeking call of the oppressed people in that country, the Iraqi opposition forces will carry out a protest march in Tehran before departing.

Army Officer Views Iraqi Air Force 'Threats'

LD271835 Tehran IRNA in English 1756 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June 24, IRNA — A senior Iranian Army commander at Khatam ol-Anbiya' military headquarters said today that the Islamic Republic would not hesitate to pound industrial quarters in Iraq if the Iraqi Government should choose to resume attacks upon factories and non-military targets in Iran.

He said Iran's long-range artillery as well as its missiles and fighter-bombers can hit virtually any target anywhere in Iraq.

The commander who was reflecting on fresh threats by Iraqi Air Force Commander Lt Gen Hamid Sha'ban said the Iraqi Government would certainly pay dearly for any new adventurism against the Islamic Republic.

Khomeyni Receives Families of Martyrs, POWs

LD241243 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] On the eve of the 28 June anniversary [when an explosion at the Islamic Republic Party headquarters killed a number of officials], the imam of the ummah received in Jamaran Hoseyniyyeh [Mosque] the families of martyrs, those missing in action, POWs, and the crippled from Arak, who were accompanied by the Majlis deputy from that town. The imam also received a number of martyrs' families, families of those missing in action, POWs, and crippled from Tehran and from Natanz in Esfahan Province, who were accompanied by Mr Karrubi, representative of the imam, supervisor of the Martyrs Foundation, and deputy speaker of the Majlis.

At this meeting, Mr Karrubi, representative of the imam and the deputy speaker of the Majlis, on the occasion of the anniversary of the June 28 tragedy, glorified the memory of the martyrs of that sad incident, especially the wronged martyr Ayatollah Dr Beheshti, and the untiring fighter and steadfast revolutionary martyr Mohammad Montazeri [son of Ayatollah Montazeri who, in a public statement, declared him insane]. Mr Karrubi expressed his congratulations on the successes achieved by the fighters of Islam in the "Nasr-3" and "Nasr-4" operations. Wishing for their final success, he praised the self-sacrifice, devotion, and heroism of the families of the martyrs, and expressed to them the congratulations, condolences, appreciation, and gratitude of his holiness the imam.

At the end of the meeting, the imam responded to the sentiments expressed by those present.

Prime Minister Meets With Ambassador to USSR

LD241042 Tehran IRNA in English 1000 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June 24, IRNA — Iranian ambassador to the Soviet Union, Naser Hayrani-Nobari met with Prime Minister Hosein Musavi here Tuesday evening. During the meeting Hayrani-Nobari briefed the premier on the latest developments in Iran-U.S.S.R. ties. The prime minister issued necessary guidelines on bilateral relations.

Musavi Warns of Enemy's 'Cultural Attack'

LD241030 Tehran IRNA in English 0956 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June 24, IRNA — The enemys' cultural attack on the values of the Islamic revolution is more dangerous than their military and economic aggressions, said Prime Minister Hosein Musavi here Tuesday. In view of this it is a cultural obligation to acquire the most efficient instruments and confront these attacks he added.

Addressing the second day of a ceremony marking the sixth anniversary of the foundation of the Islamic Propagation Organization (IPO) Musavi said that IPO should endeavor to continue its successful activities and equip itself with modern machinery and techniques so that it can enhance its propagation and counter the problems faced by world Muslims and the country.

"We should not think only about our own interests, ignoring the fate of Muslim nations and those under oppression", Musavi stressed. The Islamic Revolution's fate is interlinked with the destiny of the Islamic ummah and consequently the Islamic

Republic officials and the revolutionary people especially the informed and committed ulema, shoulder a grave responsibility, he elaborated.

Musavi also said that the necessity of an active presence by the ulema at various international scenes is greatly felt, considering that global arrogance has employed all its power in a bid to annihilate the Islamic revolution.

In view of today's world situation, said the premier, the spread of cultural and academic centers as well as the need to study domestic and international affairs on the basis of existing realities is a must and this is impossible without unity between ulema and the young generation.

Musavi paid tributes to the success of the IPO especially its portrayal of art as a tool to promote Islamic teachings and emphasized that this trend should continue and the artists should be supported and encouraged.

Oil Minister Notes Issues for Vienna OPEC Session

NC240635 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh and his accompanying delegation departed from Tehran this morning en route to Vienna to attend the 81st conference of OPEC oil ministers. Prior to his departure, Mr Aqazadeh informed our correspondent about the issues that will be discussed at the session:

[Begin recording] [Correspondent] Mr Aqazadeh, could you please tell us what stance the Islamic Republic of Iran will maintain with regard to the agenda of this session?

[Aqazadeh] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The 81st OPEC session, which will be held in Vienna, is one in a series of regular sessions that examine the usual problems -- the budget, OPEC's internal problems, and quarterly ceilings. At thissession, the third quarter of the current year will be specifically examined. The session also will discuss the election of a secretary general and will review the prevailing prices of the past 6 months. In view of the decisions which OPEC adopted 6 months ago that stabilized prices, the fixed price of oil is $18 per barrel. This stabilization is due to the Islamic Republic of Iran's stance at that time, a stance which has been proved correct.

The decline in the value of the dollar, and the repercussions this has had and continues to have on the income of OPEC members, probably will be another topic discussed at the session. In addition, we hope to have serious discussions on ceilings and price rises so that we can formulate a policy for the next 6 months -- the next quarter in particular -- and on whether we should continue to pursue the policy of bringing about a price increase or of raising the production ceilings by 15/18ths [as heard]. Of course, the Islamic Republic of Iran's consistent stance has been to raise the price so that we do not have to depend upon increasing the ceilings. I believe that the income of members rises proportionately within the production framework if the price is reasonable, far more than if the ceilings were raised.

Regarding the election of a new secretary general, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and Venezuela have nominated candidates, and I believe the candidate from one of these countries probably will be elected by a majority vote. These are the issues which will be debated at this OPEC session. [end recording]

Says Iraq Violates Quotas

LD241022 Tehran IRNA in English 0935 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Excerpts] Tehran, June 24, IRNA — Iran will put forward its proposals for oil production in the third and fourth quarters of the current year at the ministeral session of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) scheduled to open in Vienna Thursday, said Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh here Wednesday before departing for Austria. [passage omitted]

The Iranian oil minister said that countries such as Saudi Arabia which enhance Iraq's export possibilities, should cease their backing of Iraq in view of its violation of OPEC quotas, in order to protect OPEC's interests.

OPEC members, he continued should pressure Iraq to observe OPEC quotas. [passage omitted]

Reportage on Combat Operations Against Iraq

Communique No 2,877

LD241658 Tehran IRNA in English 1633 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June 24, IRNA — Iranian jet fighters shot down an Iraqi Super Frelon helicopter immediately after it missiled a foreign cargo ship in Bushehr naval zone, Persian Gulf early Wednesday, according to the 2877th communique of the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces released here today.

The communique said that Iranian naval craft intercepted and searched a foreign tanker and a cargo vessel in Strait of Hormuz Tuesday but allowed them to continue voyage when no Iraq-bound cargo was found on board.

Iranian artillery and mortar fire responded to enemy fire in most war areas Tuesday and Wednesday silencing Iraqi shelling in Panjwin and Mehran regions and inflicting substantial casualties and losses on enemy troops.

An Iraqi patrol unit attempted to approach Iranian positions in Sumar early Tuesday but was forced to flee from the region by Muslim combatants who also thwarted the would-be attack of two Iraqi helicopters over the Talayeh region in the southern fronts.

Several Iraqi troops attempted to erect barbed wire around their positions in Sumar operational theater, but artillery fire of Muslim forces inflicted some casualties on them.

Some 10 gun emplacements and two military vehicles of enemy troops were set afire when their positions in parts of western and southern fronts came under artillery fire of Iranian Gendarmerie

forces Tuesday with the enemy sustaining some casualties, said the communique.

Iraqi Plane Downed; Gunboat Hit

LD241841 Tehran IRNA in English 1740 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June 24, IRNA — An Iraqi warplane was shot down by anti-aircraft fire of the Iranian Air Force Wednesday, said the Joint Staff Command of the Islamic Republic Armed Forces this evening. The Joint Staff added that the enemy plane was downed over the region south-west of Piranshahr, in West Azarbayjan Province at 09:00 GMT.

Meanwhile, a report reaching here from Ahvaz said that an Iraqi UZA gunboat was hit and damaged in the northwestern tip of the Persian Gulf water by the coastal artillery fire of Iran's Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Wednesday night.

The report added that the gunboat, which was positioned east of Iraq's Umm-Qasr port, was intending to reach the Al-'Amyah platform when it was subjected to the Iranian fire.

Iraqi Missile Hits Turkish Ship

LD241734 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, a vessel belonging to Turkey was attacked today in Persian Gulf waters by an Iraqi fighter-bomber. *Reuter* quotes shipping company sources in the region as saying: The Turkish ship was attacked by a missile and its engine caught fire. Turkish radio announced that the fire was controlled by the crew with the assistance of Iranian lifeboats, and seven injured crew were transferred to Bushehr port by Navy helicopters of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Meanwhile, the Turkish Foreign Ministry spokesman said that one of the Iraqi helicopters [as heard] which participated in this attack was hit by an Iranian aircraft.

Iraqi Port Positions Shelled

LD241811 Tehran IRNA in English 1739 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., June 24 IRNA — More than 50 Iraqi soldiers were killed and wounded and 10 engineering vehicles, tanks, personnel carriers as well as 20 bunkers and gun emplacements were destroyed when positions and strongholds of Iraq's Seventh Corps near the port of Umm Qasr came under heavy artillery fire of Iranian combatants Tuesday night.

During the more-than-one-hour shelling damage was also inflicted on Iraqi commander headquarters and enemy engineering activities were halted resulting in heavy smoke billowing skyward till Wednesday morning.

Iraqi Plane Downed in Northwest

LD251054 Tehran IRNA in English 1023 GMT 25 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June 25, IRNA — An Iraqi plane was shot down by Iran's anti-aircraft fire over the northwestern fronts at 11:08 local time (07:38 GMT) today. The fate of the pilot was not immediately known.

President Orders By-Election in North, East

BK241635 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 1608 GMT 24 Jun 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, June 24 (*Lanka Puwath*) — Sri Lankan President J.R. Jayewardene has ordered the holding of by-elections for vacant parliamentary seats in the Northern and Eastern Provinces, the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation announced in its news bulletin tonight. The order has been published in a gazette extraordinary dated 19th June 1987.

The nomination of candidates for the electoral districts has been fixed for the 15th of July 1987. Nominations will be received by the respective returning officers of their districts at the Kacharis [courts of justice] between 10 am and 11 am on July 15th.

The electoral districts of Kayts, Vaddukodai, Kanvesanthurai, Manipay, Kopay, Udupiddy, Point Pedro, Chavakacheri, Nallur, Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mannar, Mullaittivu, Vavuniya, Trincomalee and Padiruppu fell vacant consequent to the vacation of membership by the respective members of Parliament.

Officials, Red Cross To Distribute Indian Aid

BK250417 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 25 Jun 87

[Text] The Indian cargo ship *Island Pride* carrying over 800 tons of relief supplies for the suffering people of Jaffna is reaching Kankesanthurai port today. It is being accompanied by the passenger liner *Srivastava* with Indian Red Cross officials and newsmen on board. The relief supplies include rice, edible oil, flour, salt, milk powder, medicines and kerosene.

Officials of the Indian High Commission in Colombo and the Sri Lankan Foreign Office, along with representatives of the Sri Lankan Red Cross, will receive the ship.

Our Colombo correspondent, Piabon Majumder, reports that a team of officials were flown this morning to Kankesanthurai to supervise and coordinate the distribution of relief supplies.

Meanwhile, fighting broke out yesterday at Jaffna Fort, Palaly and Kankesanthurai. Sources in the Northern Province said that fighting began when security forces tried to come out of their camps.

The Sri Lankan president, Mr Jayewardene has announced the holding of parliamentary by-elections to fill the 16 vacant seats from the troubled Northern and Eastern Provinces. The vacant seats were caused after the Tamil United Liberation Front MPs refused to take the loyalty oath in 1983 after winning the seats in the 1977 general elections.

Reacting to the move, the TULF leader, Mr Amirthalingam, said elections would not be possible without a political solution to the ethnic problem. He said the party Politburo will meet soon to discuss its stand.

Prime Minister Discusses Fight Against Terrorism

BK231535 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 1523 GMT 23 Jun 87

["OANA/pool" item; all quotation marks as received]

[Excerpts] Colombo, June 23 (*Lanka Puwath*) — "The so-called big and the so-called strong, tend to think that might is right. But the small and the not so strong are of the firm conviction that right is might. The downfall of those who think that might is right has always been not too far away. We who are said to be small and not so strong see things in advance. When we reveal them in advance, people blame us for inviting trouble. It so happens not because of our intellectual arrogance. It so happens because we are guided by the realities of truth.

Today a handful of terrorists are challenging the very foundations of our society. They fail to realise that in the process they are destroying the very foundations of their own societies. What is the motive behind the assistance that is being given to the terrorists? Is it because they like the terrorists? It is to satisfy their own ulterior motives — their own greed for territorial expansion. Remember that this assistance is like the Trojan horse", said Sri Lankan Prime Minister Ranasinghe Premadasa in his address at the "Gam Udawa" 9th anniversary held at Kataragama, southern Sri Lanka today. Here is the full text of the prime minister's address:

"Today, is a day of special significance to all of us. It marks the 9th anniversary of the village re-awakening movement. On this memorable occasion, I would like to thank all of you for your presence. I must also thank the silent millions — the partners of Gam Udawa for their active participation in nation building. [passage omitted]

A nation is like a pyramid. The strength and the majesty of the pyramid are embodied in its broad foundation and solid base. Whatever is top heavy must collapse. We must realise that everyone big and everything big is supported from the base provided by everyone small and everything small. We fail to realise that the big cannot survive without the small. After all, the millions of small people — the workers and the peasants — are the hardcore of our society. They are the very foundations of our country.

The so-called big and the so-called strong tend to think that might is right. But the small and the not so strong are of the firm conviction that right is might. The downfall of those who think that might is right has always been not too far away. We who are said to be small and not so strong see things in advance. When we reveal them in advance, people blame us for inviting trouble. It so happens not because of our intellectual arrogance. It so happens because we are guided by the realities of truth.

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expansion. Remember that this assistance is like the Trojan horse.

I have been repeatedly saying that the objective of the terrorists is not to gain ethnic or human rights. It is a conspiracy to destabilise and destroy our democratic institutions and our democratic way of life. That is why we have repeatedly asked those who are helping the terrorists and encouraging them to refrain from doing so. History has a tendency to repeat itself. That is why I have been repeatedly calling upon all those who have been assisting terrorists not to do so. There can be repetitions and repercussions sooner or later upon the very people who are fostering and sheltering terrorism today. One is support and the other against. We are happy that the right thinking people all over the world are realising the truth about terrorism in Sri Lanka. We must unreservedly bow to them.

In our long history of 2500 years, we have been invaded and occupied by foreigners many times. We were a subject people but we never surrendered. Only the British conquered us fully. That too was the result of a great betrayal by our own feudal lords. Therefore, whatever the circumstances are, there will be no surrender. There will be no running away. All efforts to undermine our self-respect, sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity will be resisted at whatever cost.

It is true that we have no weapons. We never bargained for military power. We were only building moral strength. In moral strength we are second to none. We have seen the surrender of mighty military powers. We have seen the smallest and the weakest overpower the mightiest and the greatest through moral strength. What is moral strength? It is the strength that you derive from your dedication to truth, non-violence and self-sacrifice. In plain words it is character building. This is how Mahatma Gandhi stood his ground against the mighty British empire. People who are dedicated to truth and non-violence have achieved more than through violence and hatred.

Through village re-awakening, we are not only building houses, we are building the moral strength of our people. In this process we are laying a firm foundation for prosperity and for posterity. Self-confidence, self-respect and self-reliance are the cornerstones of our moral crusade. We are trying to make our people stand on their own feet. We do not want them to be a burden on society. We do not want them to be indebted to the world. We diverted all our energies and all our resources during the last 10 years for this purpose. We were not ready for battles. We have been fighting a war against want. We have been fighting against illiteracy, illness, hunger and want. That war cannot be fought with arms. That war can be won only through self-sacrifice and self-reliance.

Are we going to surrender to this conspiracy perpetrated on us by an unseen hand? Are we going to become a subject people once more? Are we going to succumb to pressures and external threats? I think it is high time that we asserted our will over those elements that believe that might is right.

To those who are in anger for no fault of ours, to those who are perpetrating injustices on us due to their arrogance, to those who are trying to destabilise us through their territorial ambitions, I like to offer some words of wisdom from the Bhagvadgita. I do so on this memorable occasion from the sacred city of Kataragama — a shrine sacred to all religions:

"Krodhad Bhavati Sammohah-Sammohat Smrti-Vibhramah-Smrti-Bhramaad Buddhi-Naso -Buddhi-Nasat Pranasyati".

"From anger rises confusion, from confusion comes loss of mind, from loss of mind comes destruction of intelligence, from destruction of intelligence he perishes".

However, I know that these teachings can only be comprehended by those who understand and realise the value of truth and non-violence.

It is my duty to express my thanks to all of you for extending to me your good wishes on the occasion of my birthday. The commencement of the village re-awakening movement on my birthday was a pure accident. In any case, we were compelled by circumstances to inaugurate the first model village on this date in 1978. We never visualised that this movement would expand so fast and assume such large proportions.

In conclusion, I like to thank all those who have participated in Gam Udawa activities over the years. I know that all the credit for Gam Udawa is being showered on me. But I must confess that the credit should go to the people who have made village re-awakening a reality. I have been lucky to have been showered with credit for the performances of others. My birthday wish is that I should continue to be bestowed with this divine blessing. My appeal to all my well-wishers that they contribute to the terrorist victims fund has been well responded. Isn't it the fact that these victims of terrorism have sacrificed their life and limb to make us live? What more contentment can one derive on one's birthday than to witness this goodwill towards humanity."